

# THE ATHENÆUM

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JAMES HOLMES, TOOK'S COURT, CHANCERY LANE.

## UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.— GEOLOGY AND MINERALOGY.

In consequence of the Resignation of the PROFESSORSHIP of MINERALOGY by Mr. E. J. CHAPMAN, who has received the appointment of Professor of GEOLOGY and MINERALOGY in the University of Canada, the Chair of MINERALOGY at this College is NOW VACANT. The Council are desirous of filling up the Professorship, and also that of GEOLOGY, which has remained void since the retirement of Mr. RAMSAY.

Applications for the appointment of the Professorship of Geology and Mineralogy jointly, or of either of these subjects separately, will be received on or before WEDNESDAY, the 13th JULY.

OHAS. C. ATKINSON,  
Secretary to the Council.

30th June, 1853.

## HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.— HIS GRACE THE PRESIDENT has kindly directed the Grounds of Chiswick House to be opened for the reception of the Visitors to the Society's Gardens at the NEXT EXHIBITION, on SATURDAY, the 9th JULY. Tickets are issued at this office, price 2s.; or at the Garden, in the afternoon of the 9th July, at 7s. each.

21, Regent-street, London.

## BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.— NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS OF BRITISH SPECIMENS.

Those Members, who in consequence of change of Residence may not have received the LIST OF DESIDERATA for 1853, are requested to send their Addresses forthwith.

G. E. DENNES, Secretary.

26 Bedford-street, Strand,

23rd June, 1853.

## COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND CHEMISTRY, AND OF PRACTICAL AND GENERAL SCIENCE, 38 and 39, Lower Kennington-lane, Kennington, near London.

Principal—J. C. NERBUT, F.G.S., F.C.S., &c.

The system of Studies pursued in the College comprises every branch required to prepare youth for the pursuit of Agriculture, Manufacture, Mining, Mechanics, and Arts; for the Naval and Military Services, and for the Universities.

Analyses, and Assays of every description are promptly and accurately executed at the College.

The terms and other particulars may be had on application to the Principal.

## THE MISSES WADDINGTON receive a LIMITED NUMBER of YOUNG LADIES to BOARD and EDUCATE in the English and French Languages, and, with the assistance of able Masters, every accomplishment essential to a pure education. Shirley, which is remarkably salubrious, is pleasantly situated on the road from Southampton. References of the best house-keepers can be given.

Shirley, March, 1853.

## EDUCATION.—SOUTH COAST OF DEVON.— There will be VACANCIES for a limited number of YOUNG LADIES during the Summer Vacation, in the Establishments of the MISSES GERMAN, at SOUTH COMBE HOUSE, PAINGTON, near TORQUAY.

The house is commodious and replete with every domestic comfort, and commands a view of Torbay. It is situated within two miles of the sea, in a highly-fertilized and very neat neighbourhood, which offers every facility for a happy and useful life.

Able Masters attend to teach the Languages ; and a sound and religious, as well as accomplished, Education, can be obtained at this Establishment, in conjunction with the comforts of a maternal home.

The best references can be given both in Town and Country, including the Parents of Pupils already educated at the School.

Address, The Misses GERMAN, South Combe House, Paington, near Torquay.

## WINSLOW HALL, BUCKS.—Dr. LOVELL'S SCHOLASTIC ESTABLISHMENT was founded at

Mannheim in 1836, and removed to Winslow Hall in 1842.

The Course of Tuition includes the French and German Languages, theoretically and practically (they being chiefly used in the house), the Classical, Mathematical, and other Studies that are prepared for the University, the Military Professions, and the Army and Navy. Elementary Training of Pupils is left to the Master.

The Principal is always in the School-room, and superintends the Studies. There are also French, German, and English resident Assistants. The domestics are mostly German. The premises are very spacious, and offer every requisite advantage for health and recreation. The course of study is part of Great Britain and Ireland is facile, as Winslow is situated on a branch line between the North-Western and Great Western Railways. References to former Pupils, and to the friends of past and present Pupils, together with all further information, can be had on application to Dr. LOVELL, as above.

## EDUCATION.—FRENCH AND GERMAN PROTESTANT COLLEGE, CHURCH HOUSE, MERTON, SURREY.—This Establishment, conducted by a French Gentleman, combines all the advantages of a residence on the Continent with a sound CLASSICAL, and other Academic EDUCATION. He has been called for his considerable additions and improvements, and the mansion containing nearly Fifteen rooms, is surrounded by several acres of its own grounds, and is admirably adapted for educational purposes. The Classics are taught with the English accent, and the Mathematics by a Graduate of Cambridge. The College is open daily, and the pupils are given by resident French and German Professors, and the pupils are walked upon by French servants. Access easy—Train from Waterloo Station, and by Omnibus from Gracechurch-street. References to Clergymen and Gentlemen, and Prospective pupils by application to the Principal.

## TO PERSONS ENGAGED IN LITERARY PURSUITS OR TUITION.—A FOREIGN LADY of some Literary Attainments, and Professor of German, French, and Italian Languages and Literature, wishes to enter into PARTNERSHIP with the Principal of a first-class EDUCATIONAL ESTA-

TION. She is ready to make a compact in London, where she would also like to find a Home. In some part of the Family, where equal but cheerful temper and liberal education would be valued. The Lady is thirty years of age, and has great experience in Tuition. Miss W. also offers her services for Translations and Reading in the above Languages. Prospective to be had at the Library of Mr. Rodwell, 46, New Bond-street.

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## PRIEST TUITION.—A Married Clergyman,

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Tweet Brae House, Peebles, June, 1853.

## THE GERMAN LANGUAGE.—An English

Family who have had the advantages of the society and instruction of a German Lady in their domestic circle for the past eighteen months, but whose arrangements now render a separation necessary, are anxious to procure for their esteemed Friend a similar position, where she will be able to impart and enjoy the same mutual advantages without any pecuniary remuneration. The fullest references will be given and required.—Address, by letter, F. L. 36, Lime-street, Fenchurch-street.

## SCHOOL ASSISTANTS, duly qualified, in search

of ENGAGEMENTS either in Ladies' or Gentlemen's Establishments are invited to register their Names, Qualifications, and References in person at MESSRS. REILLY, BROTHERS, School Booksellers, 150, Aldersgate-street. Office hours from 10 till 4. No charge whatever is made.

## DRAWING AND PAINTING.—INSTRU-

CTION IN WATER-COLOUR DRAWING and OIL PAINTING on Moderate Terms. Letters to be addressed to L. M. Earle's Library, 67, Castle-street, Oxford-street.

## SELECT ESTABLISHMENT for DEAF

MUTES, MALVERN HOUSE, REDLAND, near BRIS-

TOL.—A Married Gentleman, who has had eighteen years' expe-

rience in the Education and Management of Deaf Mutes, and Children under Six Years of Age, will have

TEACHING for TWO BOALDESSES after the Midsummer Holi-

day. The Pupils are instructed in articulation, and the ordinary branches included in the special education of such children. The Young Ladies are under the care of a Lady who assists him in their tuition, and the entire attention is devoted to them. The Establishment is situated in a most beautiful and commanding garden, and pleasure-grounds. Particular making application are invited to visit the Establishment.—For terms and references apply to T. W., Post-office, Redland, near Bristol.

## FORTHCOMING GERMAN PLAYS.—A

GERMAN LADY (best pronunciation) will READ, or hear

Kend, as may be wished, any of the FORTHCOMING GERMAN

PLAYS, as of a particular Lady and Gentleman. Speaking English exactly like a native, she can accurately explain every beauty, &c.

Address, &c. Letter to Dr. MADAM A. Nash & Weston, Newmarket, 4, Savile-place, Hegen-street.

## PROFESSOR FILOPANTI'S THIRD and

LAST LECTURE on the SECRET TRADITIONS OF

EARLY ROME, and in Vindication of its History against

NIEBUHR'S Objections, will be delivered at Will's Rooms, on

MONDAY, June 28, at 8 o'clock p.m. precisely. Subject of Lecture:—Early European Satire: The great Monk Boileau—Butler's Hud-

Subscriptions to the Reserved Seats for the Course, 1s. : Re-

served Seats, 3s. : Area and Gallery, 1s. Tickets to be obtained at Mr. Sam's Royal Library, St. James's-street, and at the Library of the Institution.

## A LECTURE 'On DECORATIVE FURNI-

TURE IN ILLUSTRATION OF THE EXHIBITION

AT GORE HOUSE,' will be delivered by Mr. J. C. ROBINSON, F.S.A., in the Theatre at MARLBOROUGH HOUSE, Pall Mall, on

MONDAY, 27th instant, at 8 P.M. Admission 6d.

The SAME LECTURE will BE REPEATED ON WEDNESDAY,

29th, at 3 P.M. Admission 6d.

The Lecture will give the holders one free admission to the Exhibition of Furniture at Gore House on the respective days on which the rate of admission is 6d. and 1s.

## NEWSPAPER PRESS.—A GENTLEMAN who

has been for several years connected with a Provincial New-

spaper, who has had experience in REPORTING, and is a SHORT-

HAND WRITER, is desirous of an ENGAGEMENT on an Estab-

lished Journal. Address, W. A., 5, Pulteney-street, Bath.

## LIVERPOOL FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

THE COMMITTEE are prepared to receive TENDERS

for the SUPPLY of NEW BOOKS to the above Library, for one

Year. Gentlemen, Booksellers, and others, who will be

of the publishing prices, must be sent in, addressed to "The

Chairman of the Committee of the Free Public Library, Town

Hall, Liverpool," on or before the 1st day of July next. The Books

will be delivered, carriage free, at the Library, Duke-street,

Liverpool.

C OINS AND MEDALS.—MR. CURT, of London, NUMISMATIST, &c., begs to announce that the CATALOGUE (WITH SOME PREPARATORY REMARKS) of the rare COINS of the late eminent Dealer, MONSIEUR HOULLIN, of Paris, is now published at 15, Lime-street, Leicestershire square. The SALE will take place on the 13th of JULY NEXT, and four following days.

15, Lime-street, Leicestershire square.

M INERALS.—TO BE SOLD, a Cabinet containing nineteen drawers (inclosed in one box), with 474 moveable trays with specimens (all named, including gold and silver, and some pearls); height of the Cabinet is 23 inches, and 31 inches high. Price 15s.—Apply, by letter only, to A. B., care of Mr. Roberts, 32, Moorgate-street, City.

T HE LIBRARY OF ART AND MANU-  
FACTURES of the DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND  
ART, at MARLBOROUGH HOUSE, Pall Mall, containing  
Books, Prints, and Drawings, in relation to all kinds of Ornamental Work, is NOW OPEN DAILY, from Ten in the Morning  
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Admission 6d. for the week, 3d.; for the month, 1s. 6d.; for the  
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AT GORE HOUSE, KENSINGTON, by permission of the  
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of CHOICE SPECIMENS of CABINET WORK, is NOW OPEN  
DAILY. The Works of the Students illustrate the Progress of  
the Schools of Art of Belfast, Birmingham, Cork, Coventry, Dublin,  
Exeter, Gloucester, Ipswich, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle-upon-Tyne,  
Norwich, Nottingham, Paisley, Pottery, Sheffield, Shrewsbury,  
Worcester, York, and the Metropolis, in connexion with the  
Department. A Collection of STUDIES from Life, by Mr. McLEADY,  
R.A., is also exhibited, which has been lent by that Artist for the  
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The Collection of Cabinet Work consists of the finest Specimens  
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The Lord Blessing,  
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H UMMING BIRDS.—A Collection of about  
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large revolving Glass Cases, on Mahogany Pedestals, FOR SALE.  
May be seen at MESSRS. UNWIN & ALKEN'S, 24, Piccadilly.

A N ENGINEER MACHINIST, of long practice  
and extensive experience, particularly in the manufacture of  
machines for the Manufacture of Cotton, &c., wishes to sell his  
studied knowledge of Chemistry over two years under Prof. Dumas, of l'Institut,  
and would be a good help to any Nobleman or Gentleman desirous  
of realizing some work or invention of his own. Unexceptionable  
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M ETEOROLOGY.—NEGRETTI &  
ZAMBRA'S PATENT THERMOMETER.—MESSRS. NEGRETTI &  
ZAMBRA beg to inform Scientific Gentlemen that their PATENT  
MAXIMUM THERMOMETER may now be had of the principal  
Opticians in Town and Country. As it is probable that inter-  
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letter received by them from J. GLASSIER, Esq., of the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, who has now had the instrument in constant use for nearly twelve months:

"Sir,—I have the honor to inform you that I have no  
hesitation in confirming the opinion expressed to you in my note  
of April the 23rd, respecting your new Maximum Thermometer;

since that time the Instrument has been in use, and generally  
received by the observer of the British Meteorological Society.

My opinion coincides with yours, that is to say, better  
than any in previous use.—I am, Sir, your obedient  
servant,

JAMES GLASSIER."

To be had of most Opticians, or of the Inventors and Patentees,

NEGRETTI & ZAMBRA, Meteorological Instrument Makers, 11,  
Hastings-garden, London.

CHEAP SECOND-HAND BOOKS.—Just  
published, gratis, and postage free, No. XXIV. of T. D.  
THOMSON'S CATALOGUE OF CHEAP MISCELLANEOUS  
SECOND-HAND BOOKS.

No. XXI., XXII., and XXIII., may still be had gratis and  
postage free, on receipt of one stamp for each.

T. D. THOMSON, 12, Upper King-street, Bloomsbury-square.

[JUNE 25, '53]

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TOURS IN IRELAND IN 1852.

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W. Field, Derby .....	5 0 0	4 5 0
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Wolverhampton, Chester, Liverpool, Chester.	4 4 0	3 10 0

They enable the holders to proceed to Chester, Bangor, Dublin, Cork, and the Lakes of Killarney, and back again to the Station at which the ticket was issued.

The holder of an Irish Tourist Ticket is entitled to have issued to him, at the Office, 23, Westland-row, Dublin, at very reduced rates, tickets for a tour in the county Wicklow, in Kenmare and Glenariff, up the River Shannon, for the journey from Dublin to Belfast, for the tour through the Glens of Antrim, and from Dublin to Galway for the tour through Connemara.

Every purchaser of a ticket is presented gratis, with a copy of the "Illustrated Irish Tourist's Hand-Book," supplied solely for these Tours.

The most and most accurate information afforded at the Chester and Holyhead Company's Office, 23, Westland-row, Dublin, see also "Bradshaw's Guide," page 122.

**GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.—Great MILITARY CAMPAIGN.—NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the following TRAINS will leave Paddington for WINDSOR, from which Station well-appointed conveyances run to the Camp and back:-**

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6 50 A.M.	4 45 P.M.	5 50 A.M.	3 30 P.M.
7 40	3 30	8 20	4 5
* 8 15	4 0	9 0	5 30
10 15	5 0	10 10	5 40
* 10 40	5 20	11 45	5 25
12 50	6 15	1 30	6 0
1 30 P.M.	2 0	2 30	9 20
2 0	3 30	2 30	9 55

\* Open Carriages will be attached to these Trains.

ON SUNDAYS.

Down.	Up.
8 0 A.M.	5 0 P.M.
9 0	7 0
10 0	8 30
12 0 P.M.	8 55
3 0	5 30

Fares—Paddington to Windsor and back, First Class, 6d.; Second Class, 4d.; Open Carriages, 2d. each.

Omnibus Fare to the Camp and back, 3d.; carriage and pair of horses for six or seven persons, 3½d.; ditto and single horse for four or five persons, 1½d.

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Return Tickets for Horses are issued from Paddington to Windsor and Back, at the following Fares:—Single Horses, 1d.; Pair of Horses, 1½d.; Paddington, June 14, 1853.

**NETHERCLIFT & DURLACHER, LITHOGRAPHIC ARTISTS and PRINTERS, 18, BREWER-STREET, GOLDEN-SQUARE.**

Mr. FREDERICK NETHERCLIFT, late of the Firm of Joseph Netherclift & Son, begs respectfully to inform Gentlemen connected with Literature, and the Public generally, that he has RECENTLY established a new and enlarged establishment at the above address, where, in connection with Mr. Alex. Durlacher, he possesses every facility for the execution of the several branches of his Art.

An experience of eighteen years with his Father, during which time he has executed a great number of graceful Works and for which he has received testimonial from many eminent literary persons, emboldens him to solicit a share of the Public patronage.

**M R. NETHERCLIFT, of 100, ST. MARTIN'S-LANE, LITHOGRAPHIC ARTIST and PRINTER, who during the past thirty years has executed, printed and published many important Works of great beauty and interest, and Autographs in perfect Fac-simile, which have received extensive patronage and circulation,—think it necessary to state that he is still conducting his business at the above address with continued success, notwithstanding the Advertisements or Circular Letters inserted in the Press, in a number of them bearing his name, he begs to announce that he is now introducing his youngest son, EDMUND A. NETHERCLIFT (28 years of age), whose attention and perseverance he can fully rely on, as an efficient assistant, and the occasional representative of his father.**

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A Prospectus with terms, may be had at the Institution.

The well-known Collection of Prints and Drawings, illustrative of London and its Environs, the Property of an eminent Collector.

**M E S S R S. S. LEIGH SOTHEBY & JOHN WILKINSON,**

Auctioneers of Literary Property and Works Illustrative of the Fine Arts, will SELL by AUCTION, at their House, 3, Wellington-street, Strand, on MONDAY, July 18, and four following days, at A VERY CHOICE COLLECTION OF PRINTS and DRAWINGS, Illustrative of London and its Environs, in Middlesex, and the Environs of the River Thames, and the Environs of the City of London, and other parts of England, and rare London topography ever submitted to public sale, and comprising Drawings of the highest interest by Holbein, Wyck, Vertue, Sandby, De Cort, Tomkins, Capon, Shepherd, Schnebelie, &c.; and rare and fine Prints by Hogben, Pass, Holcar, Duncker, Chevalier, and Nicolas, and other English Masters, in excellent condition and selected from the Townsley, Bindley, Wilson, and other celebrated Collections, and the Illustrated Pennants of Mr. North, Mr. Baskerville, Sir M. Sykes, &c.

The Catalogues of this important Collection will be ready in a few days.

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No. 20, Threadneedle-street.—Charming Water-colour Drawings.

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## REVIEWS

*Spain and her Progressive Developement; with Particular Reference to the Year 1851*

—[Spanien, &amp;c.]. By Dr. Julius Freyher Von Minutoli, Prussian Consul-General at Madrid for Spain and Portugal. Berlin, Duncker; London, Marcus.

In estimating a work of this class, the chief points to be considered are,—the degree of novelty or importance in the subject; the ability and opportunities of the reporter; and the scale of his survey. There is no European kingdom so little known as Spain, in respect of material facts that prove or determine the progress of a nation; while the importance of an authentic view of her position is obvious, whether her past vicissitudes or her present hopes be regarded. For the rest, the residence and office of the editor in the Peninsula are circumstances of visible advantage; and the range of his description, although it avoids some indispensable topics, is large enough to command attention. As to his personal authority on matters of opinion, or to the freedom and equity of his judgments in general, the impression from his book will not be wholly unqualified. A tone of predetermined eulogy,—which begins with loud notes in an opening Dedication to Isabel the Second—recurs in more moderate strains throughout the volume; and in this country at least, if not elsewhere, doubts will be entertained of the standard applied to laws, institutions, and social well-being by a writer who regards “the institutions and government (of Prussia) as superior to those of every other country”—and the Germany of to-day as a “blessed land,” from which nothing but “the emigration fever”—“a disease of the time”—could expel the population, by a blind instinct, like “migrating rats,” “without knowing whither or wherefore.” Nor will mercantile readers quite confide in the accuracy of a writer who can affirm that Spain has “raised her public credit” by the late “regulation” of her debt,—and who declares (p. 41) that this operation, as “an affair of national honour, has found approbation both at home and abroad.” The opinions of a publicist who thus delivers himself on known subjects will be followed with caution on less familiar ground.

Another circumstance to be noted in treating of Spanish affairs is, the relation between institutions and laws on paper and in practice. In no State emerging from great public disorders can the letter of an edict be safely taken as a measure of its operation; least of all in Spain, where *obedecer y no cumplir* has become proverbial. New regulations and establishments will at times count for little more than proofs of the intent of the framers for the time being; and are apt to disappear with them from a stage on which the change of actors is frequent and abrupt. For these reasons, it will be safe to make some deduction from every written scheme of law or improvement, in appraising its working value,—where the State Paper is the only evidence produced. Still more, when the bright side of a statistical picture—the praise of administrative measures—is to be justified in some future period, a pretty wide margin must be allowed in discounting the promise.

It is, however, just to observe that the study of amendments, and the framing of schemes of order at head-quarters, even where these may not be instantly effectual or always permanent, are at least signs that reform and progress are

declared objects of State concern; so that in this point of view they count as items of promise, though in a less degree than when results appear as the fruit of regulations. A more satisfactory part of Dr. Minutoli's evidence is composed of returns which embody positive data for a present view of the kingdom,—especially where they are ranged in comparison with similar facts of an earlier date. These may be safely accepted as grounds of judgment in the departments to which they refer:—and it is only to be regretted that the comparisons are not more numerous, and spread over a wider surface. In all cases, too, where the Doctor states his own experience and observation of matters of fact, his report may be taken without scruple; and as he seems to have visited most parts of the Peninsula with an inquisitive eye, the evidence he tenderers from his own knowledge is copious; and may be termed valuable wherever precise details confirm his general impressions. His positive testimony, in short, is generally to be preferred to his speculations.

It is obvious that no complete picture of the Spain of to-day can appear in a work which excludes those prime exponents of national existence involved in “Politics,” “Church,” “Court,” and “Official Character:”—These the Doctor expressly leaves as reserved topics,—whether with the design of handling them in a separate treatise, he does not distinctly say. The topics of which he treats are introduced by a sketch of the geography, population and history of the Spanish Empire. The form of government as it now exists is described; the Constitution of 1845, and the Electoral Law of 1848 are inserted at full length. The machinery of the several administrative departments is then explained, in the following order:—“Foreign Affairs,” “Grace and Justice, and Public Instruction,” “Finance,” “Interior,” “Internal Improvements,” “War,” and “Marine Service.” The greater part of this description gives merely what may be called an official skeleton of the Government system—the titles and attributions of the several officers, and their ramifications, with the incomes, rules, and limits of each,—as they might be entered in a court calendar, with the text of new laws or edicts by which the institutions respectively under their control are founded or modified. The more valuable and less voluminous matter consists of notices introduced under these several heads, from which something of the practical force of the machine and of the state of the people governed by it may be collected. Interesting notices are afforded by the Home Department; in which police, municipal action, architecture, and other arts of life, prisons and pauperism, come under review; and many useful observations are contributed by the Doctor from researches of his own. Under the head of Public Improvements, commerce, mining, and manufactures are ranged; and here the statistics are copious and instructive. The comments on the system of Public Instruction are less precise; although some curious details of the Doctor's own experience will be found in this section. The chapters on War and Marine give little more than the forms of military organization and discipline, and the states of the respective forces: the *Guardias Civiles* and the *Mozos de la Escuadra* (an armed constabulary force employed in keeping the highways, and hunting down felons and smugglers), and the light mountain artillery peculiar to the Spanish service—are the chief points of interest. Of the naval resources of Spain, once so powerful at sea, the account is pitiful enough; but the hopeful spirit of the compiler finds

consolation in the statistics which prove that even in this department, decayed as it is, a certain small advance is apparent. Altogether,—although it cannot be said that the Doctor has thoroughly justified either the warmth of his own praise of the actual state of things in Spain, or his confident belief that that country is fairly launched on a new and safe course, which will end in a brilliant revival of her ancient eminence,—it must be allowed that the evidence which he has collected gives hopeful signs of progress in certain directions, and attests the natural elasticity of a land in many respects greatly blest by nature, and fortunate in the vigorous stamina of her children. On the other hand, it may be seen that the permanence of whatever is good in this movement depends on some vital questions, of remote and uncertain solution, involved in those very branches of the general system which Dr. Von Minutoli refrains from touching.

From his collections we shall borrow some particulars, that may be stated in a moderate compass.

It would seem that there has been no census of the Spanish population since 1788; it is estimated by the Doctor at “12 to 14 millions of souls”—in the Peninsula alone.\* This, taking 13 millions as a middle term, gives a population of 875 for each of the 14,855 square leagues (Spanish), which the area of the country is said to contain; or, on a surface of 183,684 square miles English, 10 $\frac{1}{2}$  souls to the square mile. Of this total of 13 millions, 1,898,288 are returned as able to read; and 1,221,001 that can write as well as read:—a low proportion, which the Government is now engaged in trying to raise. The state of public educational means at the close of 1851,—exhibiting a great increase since 1832, includes—

10 Universities.	
10 Normal Schools of the First Class.	
23 Normal Elementary Schools supported by the State.	
17,069 Boys' Schools with 626,882 Scholars.	
5,021 Girls' Schools with 201,390 Scholars.	
287 Infant Schools with 11,000 Children.	
Total receiving instruction in Schools.....	839,062

The system of teaching adopted by the Government, we are told, is a “close copy of French methods:”—indeed most of the recent organizations, whether in political constitution, law, or police, have been borrowed from the same quarter.

In the Electoral Law of 1846 are some provisions that may be worth noting, in regard to instruction and moral influences. The privilege of a vote is dependent, among other things, on a certain scale of annual taxation: but this is reduced by one-half in favour of members of the Academies, doctors and licentiates of law,—persons serving the State, officers on half-pay, advocates of a year's standing, and members of the medical profession, architects, painters, and sculptors who have graduated in an Academy of the Fine Arts,—professors and teachers of any public institute. A similar preference in favour of education is shown in the Municipal Law:—which, on the other hand, refuses the right of voting to parties who have ever incurred a penal sentence or have committed acts of bankruptcy.

A table gives the following as the per-centages of illegitimate to legitimate births:—

Madrid .....	1 to 4
Barcelona .....	1 to 5
Valencia .....	1 to 6
Seville .....	1 to 7
Cadiz .....	1 to 8
Northern Provinces .....	1 to 15
In the country generally .....	1 to 35

A summary of the criminal statistics at the

\* The census of 1788 gave the number 10,500,000.—Mr. Ford, in 1845, estimated it at “between eleven and twelve millions.” If Dr. Von Minutoli is exact, his figures show a remarkable ratio of increase, on either of these periods.

end of 1850 gives the following result and commentary.—

	Men.	Women.
In the Presidios, condemned by the Tribunals	15,927	
In the Prisons of the Galleys and Houses of Detention	2,856	1,394
Detained, under Examination	10,181	1,117
Under Arrest by Police	936	236
Total of both Sexes	32,647	
The Total in 1849 amounted to	26,260	

Increase in 1850..... 4,367

—On which the following points are noticed:—1, The increase of the number of prisoners in advance of the ratio of increase of population; 2, the local anomalies in the distribution of the numbers [of which curious instances are cited]; and 3, the increase of female offenders, exceeding in Valencia, Seville, Barcelona, and Madrid the number of male criminals,—while in most other towns the former do not amount to one-eighth of the latter.

The prisons of Spain are not in general well conducted. There are, however, important exceptions to this rule—one, especially, in Valencia, where an admirable system has been created by the self-devoting exertions of Montesinos—a name worthy of perpetual remembrance. Among the penal establishments, there is one of an unusual character.—

In Spain a peculiar class of female prisoners is found in the *Reclusas*:—the daughters of families in the upper ranks, who are confined for longer or shorter terms at the instance of their relations, for certain transgressions, either in nunneries or in the hospitals termed *Casas de Caridad*. A Junta, consisting of the Governor, the Bishop, and a third person, decides on the application. The person to be confined is taken in virtue of a note from the Governor, and committed to the institution, by night, veiled, and without any name being specified:—and on the expiration of the term is removed in the same manner. The prisoner is totally isolated; during her seclusion no one has seen or spoken to her, nor is allowed to know either her station or name, or the cause of her incarceration.

A tabular statement of the population in cities and towns gives round numbers only, and is probably founded on rough estimates. We subjoin some of the chief items, adding the numbers for the same places as given by Mendez Sylva for the middle of the seventeenth century:—(the last edition of his *Poblacion General de España*, corrected by the author, was published in 1675). The comparison cannot be quite exact, for Sylva certainly does not include the clergy, nor is it quite clear from his manner of expression whether the nobles and their household are counted among the *vecinos*. But with every allowance on both heads, the modern increase is striking—the only exceptions being Seville and Salamanca, the splendour of which cities had not declined in the days of Philip the Fourth.—

	V. Minutoli, 1850.	Mendez Sylva, 1644–1675.
Coruña.....	20,000	1,500
Oviedo .....	10,500	1,400
Salamanca.....	14,000	*
Valladolid.....	21,000	4,000
Burgos.....	10,000	1,000
Toledo.....	15,000	5,000
Segovia.....	15,000	4,000
Barcelona.....	120,000	15,000
Madrid.....	200,000	60,000
Seville.....	120,000	300,000
Granada.....	86,000	50,000
Cadiz.....	60,000	5,000
Malaga.....	52,000	12,000

There is no greater obstacle to "progressive development" in Spain than the diversity of her local customs, and the tenacious jealousy with which the several provinces maintain their interests as separate from each other, and from the community at large. One of the best acts of the Government was its attempt to establish uniformity in weights and measures throughout Spain; but the difficulty of the task is great, and its accomplishment is only promised for 1859.—

\* General population not stated; but from 8 to 12,000 students alone are numbered.

'Meanwhile, orders have been given to collect from every province the dry and liquid measures, and the weights used in each. These are referred to a Commission appointed to prove and compare them with regard to the proposed new models.' The specimens have been arranged in the Museum for Arts and Manufactures, and their diversity gives a lively idea of the difficulty of the new adjustment. 'There are jars, cans, bottles, canisters, pipkins with long necks and with short, slender and pot-bellied, great and small; *cantares* and *garros*, ancient and modern. The corn measures are usually stout boxes, framed in a cubical or oblong shape, and bound with iron. In some places, there is absolutely no fixed measure at all; and in gauging quantities they go by the advice of expert farmers, or by rough estimates, which are termed "blind journey-work" (*peonadas de ciego*). The measures for wheat are of every kind of shape; not only do those in the town differ from those in the country, but also in some communes as many as two or three dissimilar wheat measures are used indiscriminately. Many families possess peculiar measures of their own, which pass current with the rest in sales and purchases in open market.'

The military force of Spain is the first object of care to the Government. It is said to be in fine order,—and complete in all its arms. The force is—

	Annual expense (in round numbers)	say about
Infantry .....	79,670	82,692,651 rs.
Cavalry .....	12,000	17,547,562
Artillery .....	10,000	15,989,262

The total strength of the navy consisted in 1851 of—3 ships of the line, 5 frigates, 6 corvettes, 13 brigs, 22 steam-boats, and a few small craft, *goletas*, *misticos*, &c.; manned by 3,949 sailors, 1,658 marines, and 385 steam-boat engineers:—the annual cost, 86,150,570 rs.; or, in round numbers, 860,000/- sterling. This is but a poor armada for a great kingdom surrounded on three sides by the sea; yet it is an advance on former years. The list of ships of war in 1843 was 24; in 1845, 42; in 1851, 64.

The commerce and industry of the nation is visibly improving. Of the latter, the chief seat is Catalonia;—Asturias comes next in activity and importance; then Malaga, Seville, and Cadiz. But it is allowed that Spain does not herself produce a third part of what she requires for the consumption of her inhabitants; who have to pay for the remaining two thirds an exorbitant price, in order to the encouragement of "native industry,"—while this aggravation of the natural cost holds out irresistible inducements to the smuggler. So tempting is the bait, that even persons high in office have been accused of taking part in contraband traffic:—and those who have been in Spain will have heard of instances enough to justify something stronger than the gentle hint with which Dr. Von Minutoli dismisses the subject.

An elaborate history of the growth and successive complications of the monstrous grievance which went of old by the name of "law" in Spain, leads to the welcome fact that this incubus, at least, is now removed. Spain has completed all her Codes, viz.:—of mercantile law in 1829,—criminal, in 1848,—and civil, in 1851. The pattern is French:—but this is perhaps the best worth borrowing of all that have been imported from that quarter.

There is a sensible discussion of some modern schemes for colonizing the waste lands of Spain from Germany and England:—in the course of which, the fortunes and present state of the people imported by Olavides under Aranda, in the reign of Charles the Third, furnish an appropriate episode. Dr. Von Minutoli is not sanguine as to the success of the experiments in question; especially if conducted under no better guidance than that of a joint-stock company:—and he hints, in his cautious way, at certain disadvantages, significant of more than he chooses to express, which all but purely

orthodox colonists may have to encounter. He also notes the pregnant fact that at this moment an extensive emigration is going on from Spain to French Africa:—as many as 20,000 souls having within a short period left the stony and torrid parts of Murcia for Oran. And he discreetly observes that the Government might as well try to lead the course of native enterprise to its Andalusian and other wastes, before it invites foreigners to occupy them.

Good roads are the first want of Spain: these we are glad to find described as objects of active interest to the home government. But so far as its railway projects are concerned, we quite agree with Dr. Von Minutoli that, leaving out of the question the physical obstacles in Spain to such communications, it is at least premature to aim at the most costly kind of public works at present, while many important districts have not yet been supplied with even tolerable carriage roads. After these, if not before them, canals may claim a place:—the rather that irrigation, the life blood of Spanish fertility, goes hand in hand with commerce in such works. Many former undertakings of this class are still unfinished; others, long since completed, have been suffered to fall into ruin; while in the navigable rivers alone there is a vacant field of improvement, urgently needed and admitting of invaluable extension.

As our extracts have chiefly been taken from the statistics of the volume, it is proper to say that it contains more amusing matter, which will lighten the task of the reader who may consult it for serious purposes. The true value of the book, however, depends on its substantial material of fact, collected in a field hitherto *virgin*:—and this, after making all the qualifications above stated, entitles it to be received as an important contribution to our knowledge of the Peninsula.

*Twelve Years a Slave. Narrative of Solomon Northup, a Citizen of New York, Kidnapped in Washington City in 1841, and Rescued in 1853 from a Cotton Plantation near the Red River in Louisiana.* Low & Co.

THIS work is called by its writer another Key to the prose Iliad of Negroe life in the United States,—but it is less a key than a commentary. We find little of the spirit of Uncle Tom in Solomon Northup,—the uncomplaining patience and the forgiveness of enemies so prominent in the character of his romantic model. His wrath and his impatience under wrong rather suggest the sturdier nature of the Saxon than the mild temper of the African. By his own confession, nothing save the certainty that it would end in defeat prevented him from heading an insurrection against the whites. After describing one such failure, and its terrible consequences to the coloured people, he says:—

"During the Mexican war I well remember the extravagant hopes that were excited. The news of victory filled the great house with rejoicing, but produced only sorrow and disappointment in the cabin. In my opinion—and I have had opportunity to know something of the feeling of which I speak—there are not fifty slaves on the shores of Bayou Boeuf, but would hail with unmeasured delight the approach of an invading army. They are deceived who flatter themselves that the ignorant and debased slave has no conception of the magnitude of his wrongs. They are deceived who imagine that he arises from his knees, with back lacerated and bleeding, cherishing only a spirit of meekness and forgiveness. A day may come—it will come, if his prayer is heard—a terrible day of vengeance, when the master in his turn will cry in vain for mercy."

"This kind of threat, though we cannot say it is unnatural under all the circumstances of the case, is mischievous and unwise.

What provocation the writer had received, our

readers shall hear in his own words. We need only premise that he was born a free man,—his father having received his freedom at the death of an old master. Mr. Northup was walking about the streets of Saratoga, the fashionable watering-place for New York pleasure seekers :

"On the corner of Congress street and Broadway, I was met by two gentlemen of respectable appearance, both of whom were entirely unknown to me. I have the impression that they were introduced to me by some one of my acquaintances, but who, I have in vain endeavoured to recall, with the remark that I was an expert player on the violin. At any rate, they immediately entered into conversation on that subject, making numerous enquiries touching my proficiency in that respect. My responses being to all appearances satisfactory, they proposed to engage my services for a short period, stating, at the same time, I was just such a person as their business required. Their names, as they afterwards gave them to me, were Merrill Brown and Abram Hamilton."

"They were connected, as they informed me, with a circus company, then in the city of Washington; that they were on their way thither to rejoin it, having left it for a short time to make an excursion northward, for the purpose of seeing the country, and were paying their expenses by an occasional exhibition. They also remarked that they had found much difficulty in procuring music for their entertainments, and that if I would accompany them as far as New York, they would give me one dollar for each day's services, and three dollars in addition for every night I played at their performances, besides sufficient to pay the expenses of my return from New York to Saratoga. I at once accepted the tempting offer, both for the reward it promised, and from a desire to visit the metropolis. They were anxious to leave immediately. Thinking my absence would be brief, I did not deem it necessary to write to Anne whether I had gone; in fact supposing that my return, perhaps, would be as soon as hers. So taking a change of linen and my violin, I was ready to depart. The carriage was brought round—a covered one, drawn by a pair of noble bays, altogether forming an elegant establishment. Their baggage, consisting of three large trunks, was fastened on the rack, and mounting to the driver's seat, while they took their places in the rear, I drove away from Saratoga on the road to Albany, elated with my new position, and happy as I had ever been, on any day in all my life." \* \* \* They hurried forward, and in due course of time, we reached New York, taking lodgings at a house on the west side of the city, in a street running from Broadway to the river. I supposed my journey was at an end, and expected in a day or two at least, to return to my friends and family at Saratoga. Brown and Hamilton, however, began to importune me to continue with them in Washington. They alleged that immediately on their arrival, now that the summer season was approaching, the circus would set out for the north. They promised me a situation and high wages if I would accompany them. Largely did they expatiate on the advantages that would result to me, and such were the flattering representations they made, that I finally concluded to accept the offer. \* \*

The next day after our arrival in New York, we crossed the ferry to Jersey City, and took the road to Philadelphia. Here we remained one night, continuing our journey towards Baltimore early in the morning. In due time, we arrived in the latter city, and stopped at a hotel near the railroad depot, either kept by a Mr. Rathbone, or known as the Rathbone House. All the way from New York, their anxiety to reach the circus seemed to grow more and more intense. We left the carriage at Baltimore, and entering the cars, proceeded to Washington, at which place we arrived just at nightfall, the evening previous to the funeral of General Harrison, and stopped at Pennsylvania Avenue. After supper they called me to their apartments, and paid me forty-three dollars, a sum greater than my wages amounted to, which act of generosity was in consequence, they said, of their not having exhibited as often as they had given me to anticipate, during our trip from Saratoga. \* \* \* The next day there was a great pageant in Washington. \* \* \* My friends, several times during the afternoon, entered drinking saloons, and

called for liquor. They were by no means in the habit, however, so far as I knew them, of indulging to excess. On these occasions, after serving themselves, they would pour out a glass and hand it to me. I did not become intoxicated, as may be inferred from what subsequently occurred. Towards evening, and soon after partaking of one of these potations, I began to experience most unpleasant sensations. I felt extremely ill. My head commenced aching—a dull, heavy pain, inexpressibly disagreeable. At the supper table, I was without appetite; the sight and flavour of food were nauseous. About dark the same servant conducted me to the room I had occupied the previous night. Brown and Hamilton advised me to retire, commiserating me kindly, and expressing hopes that I would be better in the morning. Divesting myself of coat and boots merely, I threw myself upon the bed. It was impossible to sleep. The pain in my head continued to increase, until it became almost unbearable. In a short time I became thirsty. My lips were parched. I could think of nothing but water—of lakes and flowing rivers, of brooks where I had stopped to drink, and of the dripping bucket, rising with its cool and overflowing neater, from the bottom of the well. Towards midnight, as near as I could judge, I arose, unable longer to bear such intensity of thirst. I was a stranger in the house, and knew nothing of its apartments. There was no one up, as I could observe. Groping about at random, I knew not where, I found the way at last to a kitchen in the basement. Two or three coloured servants were moving through it, one of whom, a woman, gave me two glasses of water. It afforded momentary relief, but by the time I had reached my room again, the same burning desire of drink, the same tormenting thirst, had again returned. It was even more torturing than before, as was also the wild pain in my head, if such a thing could be. I was in sore distress—in most excruciating agony! I seemed to stand on the brink of madness! The memory of that night of horrible suffering will follow me to the grave. In the course of an hour or more after my return from the kitchen, I was conscious of some one entering my room. There seemed to be several—a mingling of various voices—but how many, or who they were, I cannot tell. Whether Brown and Hamilton were among them, is a mere matter of conjecture. I only remember, with any degree of distinctness, that I was told it was necessary to go to a physician and procure medicine, and that putting on my boots, without coat or hat, I followed them through a long passage-way, or alley, into the open street. It ran out at right angles from Pennsylvania Avenue. On the opposite side there was a light burning in a window. My impression is there were then three persons with me, but it is altogether indefinite and vague, and like the memory of a painful dream. Going towards the light, which I imagined proceeded from a physician's office, and which seemed to recede as I advanced, in the last glimmering recollection I can now recall. From that moment I was insensible. How long I remained in that condition—whether only that night, or many days and nights—I do not know; but when consciousness returned, I found myself alone, in utter darkness, and in chains."

That a machinery for the kidnapping of free and innocent men should exist in the midst of railways and electric telegraphs, is one of those anomalies of civilization in the nineteenth century which it will puzzle future generations to understand. On the whole, this book of adventures is well written—but how far the skill displayed is to be credited to the Negro, how far to the sensible and humane editor, we have no means of ascertaining.

*Lares and Penates; or, Cilicia and its Governors.* By W. B. Barker. Edited by W. F. Ainsworth. Ingram, Cooke & Co.

This book differs greatly from many modern books of travels:—the author resided in the country which he describes for many years,—his editor is a gentleman of much general and particular knowledge regarding countries east of the Mediterranean,—and, between them, they

have furnished a work full of detailed authentic and interesting information. It relates, indeed, to a country seldom visited, now comparatively poor and unpopulated, but once enjoying vast wealth and commerce,—with cities reckoning their inhabitants by hundreds of thousands. We have only to mention such names as Antioch, Aleppo, Tarsus, and Adana, in order to awaken in the reader's mind the most lively and important historical recollections.

What is called "Cilicia Proper" lies to the north of Syria, and to the south of Asiatic Turkey; and it was formerly the great channel of communication between Europe and India. The excellent and minutely illustrated map given by Mr. Barker comprises the whole district; and although the wood engravings from his drawings may not be artistic, they are perhaps more accurate for that very reason, and give, we are persuaded, a good notion of the places and objects represented. Some of them are positively pretty in themselves:—as, for instance, that which represents the ruins at Anazarba (p. 64), the view of Alexandretta (p. 116), and the representation of Mr. Barker senior's residence at the foot of Mount Simon. They have all a reality, as contradistinguished from an ideality, in their look,—and bespeak confidence similar to that which we are disposed to place in the accompanying letter press. The least popular and acceptable part of the volume, though not the least important, will be, the long history of the province or district which occupies the first ten chapters. It displays considerable learning; but it appears that not a few of its materials are derived from Mr. Ainsworth's "Travels in the Track of the Ten Thousand," and from his "Researches in Asia Minor," &c. The introductory Preface and some of the more valuable notes are by the same gentleman,—and add unquestionably to the completeness of the work. We subjoin a short extract, in testimony of what the editor has done, independently of the author:—

"A curious feature also belongs to Cilicia, which is its fatality to crowned heads. It is doubtful if Sardanapalus, notwithstanding certain not very authentic statements to the contrary, did not die in this province; the river Cydnus, which had nearly proved fatal to Alexander, was certainly so, nearly a thousand years afterwards, to the Emperor Frederic, surnamed Barbarossa; Seleucus VI. was burned to death in a palace at Mopsuestia; Labienus and Vonones were slain in the same province; Pescennius Niger was killed on the ever-memorable battle-field of Issus; Trajan died at Selinus; Florianus was killed by his troops at Tarsus; Maximianus died in agonies at the same city; Constantius perished at Mopsuestia, and Julian the Apostate was buried at Tarsus; the best and wisest of the khalifs, Almaamui, died in Cilicia; and the pride of the Comneni, Kalo Joannes, lost his life in a boar-hunt at Anazarba. Three times the fate of the world was decided on the plain of Issus. First, when the Greeks and Persians met there; secondly, when Severus and Pescennius Niger engaged there in a life-struggle for dominion; and thirdly, when Heraclius and Chosroes contested there for the superiority of the West over the East. There also, in the time of Bayazid II., the Osmanlis contested with the Mamlik dynasty of Syria the empire of the East. Yet in the present day it is difficult to determine, in a truly positive manner, the exact site of this famous battle-field, to which so melancholy and so sad an interest attaches itself."

The father of Mr. W. B. Barker may be said to have lived and died in Cilicia. He went to Aleppo as consul and agent to the East India Company at the close of the last century,—and he expired at his country seat on the banks of the Orontes, fifteen miles from Antioch, about 1850. The son made the manners and languages of the East his peculiar study, and especially devoted his attention and inquiries to the part of Asia in which he resided. If this

were done more frequently—if individuals of sufficient talent, industry, and observation would publish the results of their acquisitions and experience in the unpretending mode which Mr. W. B. Barker has adopted—what a mass of solid information might be obtained to supersede the desultory, vapid, and superficial accounts usually printed of distant but interesting countries.

Mr. John Barker, father to our author, was British Consul-General in Egypt until 1834; and his son has since had much experience of the evil of that part of the system which permits our consuls to act in a private capacity. He writes thus convincingly on the point.—

"There are English, French, Russian, Dutch, and Neapolitan consulates established in Tarsus. The English system of allowing a consul to trade is very disadvantageous to commercial interests, and frustrates the very intention for which he is appointed—that of encouraging British commerce. It brings him into constant personal collision with the local government, and detracts from his respectability and authority. Besides, his position gives him such an advantage over other merchants, that few Englishmen can settle in any place where such is the case; and therefore, as I have just observed, the desire and interest of England to extend her commerce is thus counteracted for the saving of a few hundred pounds a year of salary. This is particularly the case in Tarsus; and indeed we may observe, that in few places in the Levant where a British consul is allowed to trade have we any commercial houses, and this fact speaks for itself: although consuls have been appointed in those places for many years, and although a good deal of real business might be carried on by the means of English houses of commerce, were their interests properly supported by disinterested individuals."

The first part of Mr. Barker's work, to which we have already adverted, consists of thirteen chapters;—after which we arrive at what he evidently considers the most important and original portion,—viz., all that relates to his discovery, in a mound near Tarsus, of many fragments in terra cotta, which he supposes to have belonged to a period rather short of two centuries B.C. We own, that we are not disposed to look on these relics quite with his eye of admiration; but we are willing to make allowance in this instance, as in others, for the natural anxiety of a discoverer to find beauties not always apparent to impartial observers, and to impress a notion of rarity not entirely borne out by the facts. In this portion of his undertaking Mr. Barker has been importantly aided by Mr. Leonard J. Abingdon, of Hanley Potteries; who, while he has afforded the means of explaining some of the novel objects, has rather tended to cool and chasten our author's enthusiasm. He seems, however, to support the writer in his general views of the subject; and particularly in the opinion, that these fragments were not rejected and broken by the ancient manufacturer on account of defects,—but that, as they represented persons and objects connected with the idol-worship of the Egyptians and Greeks, they were purposely broken and thrown away as soon as Christianity began to make its way in Tarsus (the birthplace of St. Paul) and its neighbourhood. Such is the theory which also, if we mistake not, has the authority of certainly the best living judge on matters of ancient Art—Mr. Birch, of the British Museum.

Not a few of these specimens in burnt clay are depicted in the pages before us; and it is not to be disputed that the best of them are merely bad copies of well-known originals, the sculptures of the Greeks. Those which cannot be traced to any existing types are so inferior as not to bear comparison,—a point which is admitted by Mr. Barker. We cannot, however, by any means coincide in his opinion that none

of these imperfect relics are to be considered what is called "sherdwreck:"—on the contrary, we are strongly disposed to maintain that at least a few entire specimens would have presented themselves even if we suppose that the early Christians of Tarsus thrust their *Lares* and *Penates* out of doors, as they became more and more convinced of the truths of Christianity. Mr. Barker appears to have procured nothing that was not a mere fragment: all are more or less mutilated,—and some are so completely disfigured that it is only with the greatest difficulty and the exercise of much ingenuity that any ascription of them can be made. We cannot believe that competent persons in this or in other countries would think that the distorted head on page 178 was meant for "Adonis as Apollo,"—or that the triangular piece of pottery on page 248 was designed to represent the flames of Tartarus.

This portion occupies the centre of Mr. Barker's book; but he soars down afterwards, when he comes to speak of the geography of Cilicia and its vicinity. The latter part contains much that is new and instructive.

#### *The English Humourists of the Eighteenth Century, &c.* By W. M. Thackeray.

[Second Notice.]

We return to this welcome book at the name of Prior,—of whom, we think, the lecturer might have made more had it pleased him to exercise his poignant skill in painting a conversation picture showing the English diplomatist at the Hague. Instead of this, Mr. Thackeray rounds a period in praise of "Matt's" verse, "as among the easiest, the richest, the most charmingly humorous of English lyric poems."—Horatian in their spirit—in their turn. Our lecturer thinks that Moore had read Prior closely. It may be so, but the signs of such study escape us.

Gay comes next in Mr. Thackeray's record. He is treated with that "curious felicity" which implies no ordinary intimacy with, and enjoyment of, his subject on the part of the author. Here is a vignette-description of Gay's household position with "the Queensberry."—

"With these kind, lordly folks, a real Duke and Duchess, as delightful as those who harboured Don Quixote, and loved that dear old Sancho, Gay lived, and was lapped in cotton, and had his plate of chicken, and his saucer of cream, and frisked, and barked, and wheezed, and grew fat, and so ended. He became very melancholy, and lazy, sadly plethoric, and only occasionally diverting in his latter days. But everybody loved him, and the remembrance of his pretty little tricks."

Later, he is characterized with an affluence of epithet which becomes caressing, as—  
—"lazy, kindly, uncommonly idle; rather slovenly, I'm afraid; for ever eating and saying good things; a little, round, French abbé of a man, sleek, soft-handed, and soft-hearted."

There was "no Satanic virtue" in Gay to shock our suspector of every man's sincerity into over-exquisite inquiry. His were works which could be toyed with, half admiringly, compassionately, sardonically,—so as to give occasion to our Lecturer breaking forth into a lively strain.—

"Mr. Gay's 'Fables,' which were written to benefit that amiable Prince, the Duke of Cumberland, the warrior of Dettingen and Culloden, I have not, I own, been able to peruse since a period of very early youth; and it must be confessed that they did not effect much benefit upon the illustrious young Prince, whose manners they were intended to mollify, and whose natural ferocity our gentle-hearted Satirist perhaps proposed to restrain. But the six pastorals called the 'Shepherd's Week,' and the burlesque poem of 'Trivis,' any man fond of lazy literature will find delightful, at the present day, and must read from beginning to end with pleasure. They

are to poetry what charming little Dresden china figures are to sculpture—graceful, minikin, fantastic; with a certain beauty always accompanying them. The pretty little personages of the pastoral, with gold clocks to their stockings, and fresh satin ribbons to their crooks and waistcoats and bodices, dance their loves to a minuet-tune played on a bird-organ, approach the charmer, or rush from the false one daintily on their red-heeled tiptoe, and die of despair or rapture, with the most pathetic little grins and sighs; or repose, simpering at each other, under an arbour of pea-green crockery; or piping to pretty flecks that have just been washed with the best Naples in a stream of Bergamot. Gay's gay plan seems to me far pleasanter than that of Phillips—the rival and Pope's—a serious and dreary idyllic cockney; not that Gay's 'Bumkinets and Hobnelas' are a whit more natural than the would-be serious characters of the other posture-master; but the quality of this true humourist was to laugh and make laugh, though always with a secret kindness and tenderness, to perform the drollest little antics and capers, but always with a certain grace, and to sweet music,—as you may have seen a Savoyard boy abroad, with a hurdy-gurdy and a monkey, turning over head and heels, or clattering and piroetting in a pair of wooden shoes, yet always with a look of love and appeal in his bright eyes, and a smile that asks and wins affection and protection. Happy they who have that sweet gift of nature!"

A few words, we think, might have been bestow'd in reminding the musical part of our Lecturer's audience that the loveliest of sung pastorals, Handel's 'Acis,' owes its text to Gay. Nor are we altogether satisfied that 'The Beggars' Opera'—by which, after all, the mixture of humour, whim, and pathos in that author is most thoroughly illustrated,—should have been dismissed in a line. *Polly* and *Lucy* still keep the stage: *Peachum* and *Lockit* are perpetually figuring anew in "leading articles," when ex-Premier quarrels with ex-Secretary. There was much to be said concerning this "Newgate Pastoral" and its inner meaning, even to Mr. Thackeray's polite audience, had it pleased Mr. Thackeray to say it.

Perhaps the figure in this gallery on which our Lecturer has bestowed his utmost pains is that of Pope. Here Mr. Thackeray rises into a greater refinement of distinction, into a graver sympathy with his subject, than is his wont. He dwells like a true lover of "letters" (somewhat different this from a lover of literature) on the fascinations of Pope's correspondence; and after a flourish of praise in its behalf something pompous, but, we doubt not, sincere—falls into a homelier tune which is holy and charming.—

"It is affecting to note, through Pope's correspondence, the marked way in which his friends, the greatest, the most famous, and wittiest men of the time—generals and statesmen, philosophers and divines—all have a kind word, and a kind thought for the good simple old mother, whom Pope tended so affectionately. Those men would have scarcely valued her, but that they knew how much he loved her and that they pleased him by thinking of her. If his early letters to women are affected and insincere, whenever he speaks about this one, it is with a childish tenderness and an almost sacred simplicity. In 1713, when young Mr. Pop had, by a series of the most astonishing victories and dazzling achievements, seized the crown of poetry; and the town was in an uproar of admiration, or hostility, for the young chief; when Pope was issuing his famous decrees for the translation of the Iliad; when Dennis and the lower critics were hooting and assailing him; when Addison and the gentlemen of his court were sneering with sickening sneers at the prodigious triumphs of the young conqueror; when Pope, in a fever of victory, and genius, and hope, and anger, was struggling through the crowd of shouting friends and detractors to his temple of Fame, his old mother writes from the country, 'My deare, there's Mr. Blount, of Mapel Durom, dead the same day that Mr. Ingfield died. Your sister

is well; but your brother is sick. My service to Mrs. Blount, and all that ask of me. I hope to hear from you, and that you are well, which is my daily prayer; and this with my blessing.' The triumph marches by, and the car of the young conqueror, the hero of a hundred brilliant victories—the fond mother sits in the quiet cottage at home, and says, 'I send you my daily prayers, and I bless you, my dear.' In our estimate of Pope's character, let us always take into account that constant tenderness and fidelity of affection, which pervaded and sanctified his life, and never forgot that maternal benediction. It accompanied him always; his life seems purified by those artless and heartfelt prayers."

Mr. Thackeray is, perhaps, needlessly hard on the drafts of letters;—and on the plural use of one and the same epistle to different lovers and confidants, which destroys our idea of Pope's correspondence as having been genuine and spontaneous. Few letters were so formerly, when once a man or a woman had won an intellectual reputation. People noted down anecdotes, apothegms, nice remarks, to be inserted in the next despatch to *this* Secretary abroad or to the other great Lady in the country. Quieter people, even, who could produce no newer topics than the sweets of amity or the beauties of nature, and busy people withal, kept copies of their letters. These were protocols, confessions of faith, vehicles of discussion, engines of persuasion, as often as reflections of the mood of the moment, with its strength and its weakness, its sense and its nonsense. But if Mr. Thackeray be in this matter a little severe, nothing can be fairer than the following summing up against Pope in the matter of 'The Dunciad.'

"The tastes and sensibilities of Pope, which led him to cultivate the society of persons of fine manners, or wit, or taste, or beauty, caused him to shrink equally from that shabby and boisterous crew which formed the rank and file of literature in his time: and he was as unjust to these men as they to him. The delicate little creature sickened at habits and company which were quite tolerable to robust men: and in the famous feud between Pope and the Dunces, and without attributing any peculiar wrong to either, one can quite understand how the two parties should so hate each other. As I fancy, it was a sort of necessity that when Pope's triumph passed, Mr. Addison and his men should look rather contemptuously down on it from their balcony; so it was natural for Dennis and Tibbald, and Webster and Cibber, and the worn and hungry press-men in the crowd below, to howl at him and assail him. And Pope was more savage to Grub-street, than Grub-street was to Pope. The thong with which he lashed them was dreadful; he fired upon that howling crew such shafts of flame, and poison, he slew and wounded so fiercely, that in reading the 'Dunciad' and the prose lampoons of Pope, one feels disposed to side against the ruthless little tyrant, at least to pity those wretched folks upon whom he was so unmerciful. It was Pope, and Swift to aid him, who established among us the Grub-street tradition. He revels in base descriptions of poor men's want; he gloats over poor Dennis's garret, and flannel night-cap, and red stockings; he gives instructions how to find Cull's authors, the historian at the tallow-chandler's under the blind arch in Petty France, the two translators in bed together, the poet in the cock-loft in Budge Row, whose landlady keeps the ladder. It was Pope, I fear, who contributed, more than any man who ever lived, to deprecate the literary calling. It was not an unprosperous one before that time, as we have seen; at least there were great prizes in the profession which had made Addison a minister, and Prior an ambassador, and Steele a commissioner, and Swift all but a bishop. The profession of letters was ruined by that libel of the 'Dunciad.' If authors were wretched and poor before, if some of them lived in haylofts, of which their landladies kept the ladders, at least nobody came to disturb them in their straw; if three of them had but one coat between them, the two remained invisible in the garret, the third, at any rate, appeared decently at the coffee-house, and paid his twopence like a gentleman. It was Pope that dragged

into light all this poverty and meanness, and held up those wretched shifts and rags to public ridicule. It was Pope that has made generations of the reading world (delighted with the mischief, as who would not be that reads it?) believe that author and wretch, author and rags, author and dirt, author and drink, gin, cow-heel, tripe, poverty, duns, bailiffs, squalling children, and clamorous landladies, were always associated together. The condition of authorship began to fall from the days of the 'Dunciad': and I believe in my heart that much of that obloquy which has since pursued our calling was occasioned by Pope's libels and wicked wit. Everybody read those. Everybody was familiarised with the idea of the poor devil, the author. The manner is so captivating, that young authors practise it, and begin their career with satire."

This is capitally said, with one "if." We doubt "*the obloquy.*" Which among more modern authors has laboured under it? Johnson and Burney domesticated with the Thrales?—Cowper nursed through his madness by Mrs. Unwin and Lady Hesketh?—Scott entertaining refugee crowned heads in his feudal palace?—Wordsworth made a saint of pilgrimage by every one who repaired to the Lake country?—Crabbe benefited?—Moore pensioned, and propped by more offers of private friendship than his independence could endure to avail itself of?—Surely such "*obloquy*" as these men endured is better than the renown which meant fulsome dedications to Earls and statesmen, a humble back in the ante-chamber, and a hired pen in the pamphlet. After the days of 'The Dunciad,' we should rather say began the honourable and honoured period of the position of authorship in England.

At this rate we shall never come to an end, —and let us be ever "so obscurely wise or coarsely kind" (to quote from Johnson's epitaph on Levett) in our remarks, the reader would rather read Mr. Thackeray than the *Athenæum*. We would gladly have heard him in a whole—and not a part—lecture on Hogarth: since in drawing out the humours of that master genius, our lecturer's pencil-craft, as well as his pen-cunning, might have been brought into play. Without any pedantic appeal to "the principle of the pyramid," the pictorial art of the painter of *Marriage à la Mode* would have borne more ample discussion than it has here found:—in addition to treatment so neat, happy, and vigorous as is applied to a well-known series of pictures, in the following passage.—

"In the famous story of Industry and Idleness Fair-haired Frank Goodchild smiles at his work, whilst naughty Tom Idle snores over his loom. Frank reads the edifying ballads of Whittington and the London 'Prentice, whilst that reprobate Tom Idle prefers Moll Flanders, and drinks hugely of beer. Frank goes to church of a Sunday, and warbles hymns from the gallery; while Tom lies on a tomb-stone outside playing at halfpenny-under-the-hat, with street blackguards, and deservedly caned by the beadle. Frank is made overseer of the business, whilst Tom is sent to sea. Frank is taken into partnership and marries his master's daughter, sends out broken victuals to the poor, and listens in his night-cap and gown with the lovely Mrs. Goodchild by his side, to the nuptial music of the City bands and the marrow-bones and cleavers; whilst idle Tom, returned from sea, shudders in a garret lest the officers are coming to take him for picking pockets. The Worshipful Francis Goodchild, Esq. becomes Sheriff of London, and partakes of the most splendid dinners which money can purchase or Alderman devour; whilst poor Tom is taken up in a night cellar, with that one-eyed and disreputable accomplice who first taught him to play chuck-farthing on a Sunday. What happens next? Tom is brought up before the justice of his country, in the person of Mr. Alderman Goodchild, who weeps as he recognises his old brother 'prentice, as Tom's one-eyed friend peaches on him, as the clerk makes out the poor rogue's ticket for Newgate. Then the end

comes. Tom goes to Tyburn in a cart with a coffin in it; whilst the Right Honourable Francis Goodchild, Lord Mayor of London, proceeds to his Mansion House, in his gilt coach with four footmen and a sword-bearer, whilst the Companies of London march in the august procession, whilst the train bands of the City fire their pieces and get drunk in his honour; and oh crowning delight and glory of all, whilst his Majesty the King looks out from his royal balcony, with his ribbon on his breast, and his Queen and his star by his side, at the corner house of St. Paul's Church-yard, where the toy-shop is now. How the times have changed! The new Post-office now not disadvantageously occupies that spot where the scaffolding is in the picture, where the tipsy train-band-man is lurching against the post, with his wig over one eye, and the 'prentice-boy is trying to kiss the pretty girl in the gallery. Past away 'prentice-boy and pretty girl! Past away tipsy train-band-man with wig and bandolier! On the spot where Tom Idle (for whom I have an unaffected pity) made his exit from this wicked world, and where you see the hangman smoking his pipe as he reclines on the gibbet and views the hills of Harrow and Hampstead beyond—a splendid marble arch, a vast and modern city—clean, airy, painted drab, populous with nursery-maids and children, the abodes of wealth and comfort—the elegant, the prosperous, the polite Tyburnia rises, the most respectable district in the habitable globe! In that last plate of the *London Apprentices*, in which the apotheosis of the Right Honourable Francis Goodchild is drawn, a ragged fellow is represented in the corner of the simple kindly piece, offering for sale a broadside, purporting to contain an account of the appearance of the ghost of Tom Idle, executed at Tyburn. Could Tom's ghost have made its appearance in 1800, and not in 1747, what changes would have been remarked by that astonished escaped criminal! Over that road which the hangman used to travel constantly, and the Oxford stage twice a week, go ten thousand carriages every day: over yonder road, by which Dick Turpin fled to Windsor, and Squire Western journeyed into town, when he came to take up his quarters at the Hercules Pillars on the outskirts of London, what a rush of civilization and order flows now! What armies of gentlemen with umbrellas march to banks, and chambers and counting-houses! What regiments of nursery-maids and pretty infantry; what peaceful processions of policemen, what light broughams and what gay carriages, what swarms of busy apprentices and artificers, riding on omnibus-roofs, past daily and hourly! Tom Idle's times are quite changed: many of the institutions gone into disuse which were admired in his day. There's more pity and kindness and a better chance for poor Tom's successors now than at that simpler period when Fielding hanged him and Hogarth drew him. To the student of history, these admirable works must be invaluable, as they give us the most complete and truthful picture of the manners, and even the thoughts, of the past century. We look, and see pass before us the England of a hundred years ago—the peer in his drawing-room, the lady of fashion in her apartment, foreign singers surrounding her, and the chamber filled with gew-gaws in the mode of that day; the church, with its quaint florid architecture and singing congregation; the parson with his great wig, and the beadle with his cane: all these are represented before us, and we are sure of the truth of the portrait. We see how the Lord Mayor dines in state; how the prodigal drinks and sports at the bagno; how the poor girl beats hemp in Bridewell; how the thief divides his booty and drinks his punch at the night-cellars, and how he finishes his career at the gibbet. We may depend upon the perfect accuracy of these strange and varied portraits of the bygone generation: we see one of Walpole's members of Parliament cheered after his election, and the lieges celebrating the event, and drinking confusion to the Pretender: we see the grenadiers and trainbands of the City marching out to meet the enemy; and have before us, with sword and firelock, and white Hanoverian horse embroidered on the cap, the very figures of the men who ran away with Johnny Cope, and who conquered at Culloden. The Yorkshire wagon rolls into the inn-yard; the country parson, in his jack-boots, and his bands and short cassock, comes

trotting into town, and we fancy it is Parson Adams, with his sermons in his pocket. The Salisbury fly sets forth from the old Angel—you see the passengers entering the great heavy vehicle, up the wooden steps, their hats tied down with handkerchiefs over their faces, and under their arms, sword, hanger, and case-bottle; the landlady—nooptistic with the liquors in her own bar—is tugging at the bell; the hunchbacked postillion—he may have ridden the leaders to Humphry Clinker—is begging a gratuity; the miser is grumbling at the bill; Jack of the Centurion lies on the top of the clumsy vehicle, with a soldier by his side—it may be Smollett's Jack Hatchway—it has a likeness to Lismahago. You see the suburban fair and the strolling company of actors; the pretty milkmaid singing under the windows of the enraged French musician—it is such a girl as Steele charmingly described in the 'Guardian,' a few years before this date, singing under Mr. Ironside's window in Shire Lane, her pleasant carol of a May morning. You see noblemen and blacklegs bawling and betting in the Cockpit; you see Garrick as he was arrayed in *King Richard*; *Macheath* and *Polly* in the dresses which they wore when they charmed our ancestors, and when noblemen in blue ribbons sat on the stage and listened to their delightful music. You see the ragged French soldiery, in their white coats and cockades, at Calais Gate—they are of the regiment, very likely, which friend Roderick Random joined before he was rescued by his preserver Monsieur de Strap, with whom he fought on the famous day of Dettingen. You see the judges on the bench; the audience laughing in the pit; the student in the Oxford theatre; the citizen on his country walk; you see Broughton the boxer, Sarah Malcolm the murderess, Simon Lovat the traitor, John Wilkes the demagogue, leering at you with that squint which has become historical, and with that face which, ugly as it was, he said he could make as captivating to woman as the countenance of the handsomest beau in town. All these sights and people are with you. After looking in the 'Rake's Progress' at Hogarth's picture of St. James's Palace-gate, you may people the street, but little altered within these hundred years, with the gilded carriages and thronging chariots that bore the courtiers your ancestors to Queen Caroline's drawing-room more than a hundred years ago."

There was no curtailing the above pleasant extract; but its admission narrows our further space; at the service of the "humourists," within the compass of a few lines.—We can point to Mr. Thackeray's appreciation of Sterne with entire approval. "Yorick" was, indeed, a fair subject for a denunciatory sermon, addressed to the sentimentalists of *Vanity Fair*,—and its morals, and his want of morals, are not spared by our preacher.—With Goldsmith Mr. Thackeray's series closes. The author of the 'Vicar' is genially and tenderly handled. But it has been his fate, after death, to be loved by all who have commemorated him with uncommon ardour, indulgence and unanimity.—To conclude:—none will read these Lectures, whether in agreement or in difference, without looking forward to the announcement of some future series from their shrewd and suggestive discourses.

*Policy of the Restoration in 1822 and 1823*  
—[*Politique de la Restauration, &c.*]. By Count Marcellus. Paris, Lecoffre & Co.; London, Dulau & Co.

THE name of Count Marcellus is already known to our readers by his translation of 'Modern Greek Songs' [see *Athen.* No. 1250]. He was a friend and follower of Chateaubriand; and at the time when that minister held the chief power in the French Ministry of the Restoration, Count Marcellus resided at the French Embassy in London as *Chargé d'affaires*,—there being then no French Ambassador, owing to a transient misunderstanding. The politics of the period to which the present publication refers were very important at the time; but in

presence of the momentous changes that have since taken place in the affairs of Europe, the events of that period, and many of its actors, have diminished in magnitude. The volume before us, however, has historical value from its authenticity,—and must be consulted by any historian of the period. We cannot say that it contains any political revelations with which we were not previously acquainted:—but there are a few points in it which have literary interest,—and to these we will advert.

Count Marcellus was necessarily brought into constant intercourse with Mr. Canning, who had just then succeeded Lord Castlereagh in the Foreign Office. The author gives a long description of the minister, and attempts to record his style of conversation. It was not very wonderful that one good classical scholar should like another,—and the literary tone of Mr. Canning is very prominent in Count Marcellus's sketch of his intercourse with that parliamentary orator. Nearly all the sentiments expressed by Mr. Canning are enforced by quotations from the classics. M. de Chateaubriand's letters to Count Marcellus are also studded with bits of verse:—and truth compels us to say, that the English and the French ministers wear rather a schoolboy appearance in this publication. When the Duke of Wellington and Sir Robert Peel are introduced, it is curious to observe how solid and matter-of-fact the style becomes; while Mr. Canning and M. de Chateaubriand are presented surrounded by a haze of rhetoric. We will present our readers with a portion of the Count's portraiture of Mr. Canning:—but we should premise, that our author cannot be accepted as a very competent describer, because he records of himself that he *knew almost* enough of English to converse with the Minister. This, of course, intimates that the Count was not very conversant with our tongue; and it appears that the English statesman in conversation always addressed the Count in English, and the Count replied in French.—With this explanation, we introduce the Count's description of Mr. Canning at Gloucester Lodge.—

One day I found him solitary and pensive in the alleys of his little Park at Gloucester Lodge. Amid the verdure of the English turf, sweeter to the eye and softer to the tread than the grass of our meadows, he held a book in his hand, walked from tree to tree, and stopped as if better to enjoy their early shade. "A true to-day to polities," said he, holding out his hand; "I am weary of them. Come, let us read Virgil together." \* \* Do you know anything more affecting than these verses?"

Hui motus animorum, atque haec certamina tanta,  
Pulveris exigui jactu compresa quiescent.

After these verses, the minister, as if overwhelmed by his meditations, let fall the arm which held the book. Then, after a moment of silence, he propounded thus,—"It is to this after all, to this little dust of the tomb that all our vain efforts inevitably tend. What have I gained from so many combats? Numerous enemies and a thousand calumnies. Sometimes fettered by the timidity of my colleagues, or by their *naïve* simplicity, sometimes restrained by the want of intelligence in my partisans, always constrained by the King's displeasure, I can execute nothing, nor even attempt what a solemn and inner voice seems to dictate to me. I said so recently in my dejection: I take myself sometimes for a strayed bird, which far from soaring around the peaks and precipices of the mountains, only coasts along the marshes, and almost scrapes the earth. I fruitlessly am consumed in internal dissensions, and I shall die in an attack of discouragement, like my predecessor and unhappy enemy, Lord Castlereagh. How many times have I been tempted to fly far from men—even from the shadow of power, and to take refuge in the bosom of Literature, which has nurtured my youth, sole protection from the lies of destiny! Literature is to me more than a consolation; it is a hope, and an asylum. I have, besides, always looked upon it as the freemasonry of elevated spirits." \* \* Would

it not be far better for M. Chateaubriand and myself that we had neither of us put our lips to this poisoned cup of power, which unnerves us, and makes us giddy? Literature might then have brought us together, but in that case without *arrière-pensée* or bitterness; for he is like me, a lover of letters, —and better still, he protects by his precepts, if not always by his example, that pure and antique taste which is every day on the decline—those traditions of great ages—those happy rules beyond which there is no healthy literature—rules that cannot be violated without injury—that religion of style and sentiment to which our Byron has remained faithful in 'Child Harold' and which he has abjured in 'Don Juan.' How many times have I desired to abandon the turbulent political world, the society of men so indocile, in order to devote myself entirely to retreat and to my books, the only friends that never deceive! How many times have I exclaimed—and Mr. Canning raising his eyes and bold forehead towards heaven, in that harmonious voice which was one of his charms, slowly pronounced the lines—

O God! O God!  
How weary, stale, flat, and unprofitable  
Seem to me all the uses of this world!"

The foregoing description of Mr. Canning is interesting, but it smacks somewhat of unreality. He would scarcely to a French *Charge d'affaires*—at that period especially—have spoken in so sentimental a strain. The sketch, however, of Count Marcellus is by no means unlike the very elaborate portraiture of Mr. Canning given in the novel of 'De Vere,' by the late Mr. Plumer Ward. The foregoing effusion is represented as coming from Mr. Canning's tongue a few hours before the memorable conflict between him and Mr. Brougham, in 1823, upon the "tergiversation" charges. Count Marcellus records that he was invited by Mr. Canning to go and hear him and Mr. Brougham debate with each other. But the Count gives a very tame and feeble description of the scene; and it is strange that he should have so strong a memory for the effusion at Gloucester Lodge, and give so faint a picture of one of the most striking scenes that have occurred in our Parliament.

Passing, however, from the politics of the period, which have no interest except for professed politicians, we will take an extract or two from the lighter parts of the correspondence. We are afraid that M. de Chateaubriand's reputation for vanity will be confirmed by these letters. The following is very amusing, and doubly so when we think of such triviality being written from the French Embassy in London. The Count thus addresses Chateaubriand, Jan. 12, 1823.—

See what occurred to me the day before yesterday. You have doubtless forgotten Miss White. At her house there is a *rendezvous* for the men and women of letters honoured or satirized under the name of *Blue Stockings* since the time of Lady Montague, the friend of Pope. She had written to me to inquire if some of your pens did not still linger at the embassy on the side of your desk, and if I could not lay hold of one to oblige her. She wittily begged for the most worn one. I took to her, the day before yesterday, a grand party to which she invited me, the Souvenir that she requested with so much grace, and I hope that on this occasion you will not disavow your negotiator. The pen was highly *fétid*, and had the honour of successively passing under the eyes and into the hands of Thomas Moore, Southey, Lady Morgan, Dr. Young, the archaeologist, Sir Humphry Davy, the chemist, Sir T. Lawrence, the painter, and Sir William Ouseley, ex-minister to Persia, the Orientalist and traveller.

Then follows an amusing account of a delicate *embarras*.—

In the course of the evening Miss White presented me to several other distinguished persons, and to several ladies,—amongst others to a young lady, who desired to be introduced, and whom Miss White called "Lady Parker." This latter lady at once requested me to sit down near her; and then said to

me, "I have so much desired to see you, Sir, for I had learned that you had met Lady Hester Stanhope in Lebanon. As the English are banished from her presence, I wished to obtain from you some details about this extraordinary woman." I endeavoured to satisfy in my best way the curiosity of Lady Parker; and after my narrative, she said, "This information is not in accordance with what a traveler relates who has seen Lady Hester before you—I allude to Mr. Bruce." At this name there escaped from me a sarcastic smile; and with the heedlessness of my age, unpardonable in a grave diplomatist, I explained that Mr. Bruce might be accused and convicted of partiality in his narrative, for that Oriental chronicler pretended that he had remained for a long time attached to the ear of the Queen of the Desert. "What do you dare to say?" cried Lady Parker roughly, rising as if she would flee from my revelations. "Mr. Bruce is my husband!" However, she resented herself, while I inwardly cursed what I thought an exclusively Continental custom, in which a woman takes from a man in marrying him everything except his name.

"Mr. Bruce" was then introduced to the author; and a new embarrassment presented itself to the diplomatist,—as he turned out to be the gentleman of that name who, with the late Lord Donoughmore (Capt. Hutchinson) and Sir Robert Wilson, had aided in the escape of Lavalette.

The invasion of Spain by the Legitimists, and the foreign politics pursued by the restored Bourbons, were very far from being popular in England; and when the London mob had made an attack on the hotel of the French Minister here, Count Marcellus, as *Chargé d'affaires*, thought, in his own words, "that it would be very piquant to give a ball inside the very walls that had been pelted with the mud of the populace."—The Count describes with great glee the success of his ball, and recounts the names of those who attended it,—the Duke of Wellington, Mr. Peel, Lord Palmerston, the Lord Mayor himself, &c. &c." Mr. Canning had the gout; but the Count relates how "Miss Henrietta (Lady Clanricarde—Mr. Canning's daughter) danced with her usual grace amongst the representatives of all the Continental powers, and without teasing herself about the Congress of Verona!" And besides came—

All the fashionable beauties, and those noble ladies who from the day that shone on their seventeenth year are honoured at Carlton House with the kiss of the King, and immediately put themselves in search of husbands:—these came willingly to sparkle and dance at the house of a *garçon*.—Lastly, D'Orsay brought in his train the ordinary circle of dandies who make his escort.

How French is all this! But the grand ball was only the prelude to another reception,—which we shall allow the diplomatic Count to describe.—

I had the notion, after my grand ball, at which the high aristocracy figured, to give a great concert, at which might appear the secondary society that I see, particularly in autumn,—the nabobs returned from India, rich bankers, merchants and traders. This novelty, which no ambassador has ever dared, from fear of displeasing the high *noblesse*, very powerful in England, I thought that a *charge d'affaires* might venture on. It has had full success. I had taken care to invite two or three of the most fashionable dandies,—amongst others Lord Alvanley, a man with a fund of wit and keen sallies. These latter have been very desirous not to be thought out of their sphere; and they have expressed in their circles of high life their astonishment and satisfaction at having assisted at a re-union distinguished by such good manners, such good dresses, and so many English beauties, where they knew only the Frenchman—the master of the house!

This volume would have more interest for general readers if it did not come after the various publications of Chateaubriand in which he has treated at length of the topics alluded to in the present correspondence. As a supple-

mentary aid to Stapleton's 'Political Life of Canning' and Chateaubriand's 'Congress of Verona,' it will not be without value to the general historian of the period discussed in it. For general readers, however, its interest is but little. We have noticed it at greater length than we otherwise should have done, from the fact that, from causes to which we need not more particularly advert, we are seldom called on now to peruse French literary works combining political and historical interest.

*Cranford.* By the Author of 'Mary Barton,' 'Ruth,' &c. Chapman & Hall.

This collection of sketches—making up a little book which should prove a permanent addition to English fiction—originally appeared in *Household Words*. Possibly, it was commenced by accident, rather than on any settled plan; but if this was the case, the author early became alive to the happy thought pervading it;—since she has wrought it out just enough and not too much—so as to produce a picture of manners, motives and feelings which is perfect. Her theme, it is true, has not an iota of romance, or poetry, or heroism in it such as will attract lovers of excitement. There are no wicked and hardened rich people—no eloquent and virtuous paupers—in 'Cranford.' The scene is a small drowsy country town, such as will hardly have an existence a quarter of a century hence: the persons are a few foolish and faded gentlewomen of limited incomes, moving round the younger daughter of a deceased rector, as central figure—and their gentilities, their sociabilities, their topics, and their panics fill many pages. But the beauty of the book lies in this,—that our author has vindicated the "soul of goodness" living and breathing and working in an orbit so limited and among beings so inane and so frivolous as those whom she has displayed. Touches of love and kindness, of simple self-sacrifice and of true womanly tenderness, are scattered throughout the record; and with no appeal, and for no applause, but naturally and truthfully just as they are found in the current of real life. Then, there is rare humour in the airs and graces of would-be finery which the half-dozen heroines display,—in their total ignorance of the world, in their complacent credulity, in their irritable curiosity about all that touches matrimony. The main figure, Miss Matilda, is finished with an artist's hand. Her gentleness of heart and depth of affection, her conscientious and dignified sense of right, her perpetual shelter under the precepts and counsels of beloved ones that have gone home before her,—invest the character with an interest which is unique, when her weakness of intellect and narrowness of training are also considered.

There is not a single blemish or inconsistency to be pointed out, in short, from first to last;—there is hardly a solitary incident which is not of every-day occurrence—unless it be, the opportune return of Peter in reply to the Cranford Chronicler's letter,—and if this be not permitted, what becomes of the last chapters of 'The Vicar of Wakefield'?—After its kind, this tale cannot be commended too cordially.

*Catalogue of a Collection of upwards of One Thousand Autograph Letters, addressed by Thomas Moore to Mr. James Power, his Music Publisher, between the Years 1808 and 1836.*

Such is the commencement of the title-page of a catalogue of one hundred and thirty-one pages just issued to the public by Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, "Auctioneers of Literary Property, at their Great Room, 191, Piccadilly." What follows on the title-page runs

*verbatim* thus:—"Fifty-seven of which only (with omissions) have been printed by the Right Hon. Lord John Russell in the *Memoirs, Journal, and Correspondence of the Poet*; also unpublished and published *Autograph Manuscript Music, Corrected Proofs, &c.*, by Moore, Sir John Stevenson, Sir Henry R. Bishop, Wade, Leigh Hunt, Novello, &c., including a large portion of the original MSS. for the *Irish Melodies, Sacred Songs, National Melodies, Evenings in Greece, the Summer Fête, Legendary Ballads, and unfinished Works.*" There is more of this; for the title, like many a bill of fare, runs to an inordinate length. Here, then, in the very middle of Lord John's labours on the 'Life of Moore,' a sale occurs of the very best materials for the work which he has in hand. It embraces upwards of one thousand letters, extending over the best period of Moore's life, and addressed to his music publisher on matters of every description,—music, poetry, scandal, domestic necessities, and money matters:—for, Mr. Power was employed by Moore in every useful office, and was, it is clear, a good and faithful friend to the poet, better than publishers are thought to be by authors generally. He was, indeed, what the poet himself calls him, "Bill Acceptor and Fish-Agent," besides many other "&c. &c." too numerous to mention.

These letters from Moore to Power would appear at first sight to bear the same relation to the life of Moore as Burns's *Correspondence with Thomson* bears to the life of Burns. On examination, however, they are very different. The Scottish poet writes enthusiastically to his music publisher about songs and music—scorning remuneration—writing for love's sake alone—and only at the last gasp of life, when a gaol is before him, and he foresees a helpless widow and four children, does he ask for money, and that a trifling—a ten pound note. Ten pounds! for fifty and more songs, such as ring from side to side of Europe. The Irish poet also writes to his music publisher eagerly about music:—his heart is in his subjects, his fingers you would think are eternally on the harp of Erin, and yet his hand is everlasting in his publisher's pocket. We wish that Burns could have had a little touch of Moore's knowledge of "the trade," emphatically so called. No two national song-writers so alike in genius were ever so unlike in character as the Ayrshire Ploughman and the poet of whom Ireland is so justly proud. Nor can this dissimilarity be better illustrated than in the two days' sale of Moore's letters to Power forming the materials of the Catalogue before us,—enough in bulk alone to fill a 'Twopenny Post Bag.'

We have had occasion to remark before, that no portion of an author's correspondence is more interesting than that which he has held with his publisher. His letters generally relate to the progress and sale of his works, his wants, his weaknesses, and not unfrequently to the gossip of the day. We have a capital taste of Dryden in the few letters of his which have reached us addressed to Tonson;—Shenstone never wrote so naturally as he did to Robert Dodsworth his bookseller; Goldsmith is seen in all his sufferings and necessities in his letters to Griffith and Newbery; Scott's letters to Ballantyne are among the most valuable of the many printed by Mr. Lockhart; and Byron's letters to Murray are surely among the most readable of those printed by Moore in his life of the noble poet. Who would not like to see Shakespeare's correspondence with his stationer about the sale of 'Venus and Adonis,' and the 'Rape of Lucrece':—or Milton's with Simmons about the sale of 'Paradise Lost'? Do we not read with unflagging interest every portion of Burns's correspondence with George Thomson; and

have we not had occasion of late to chronicle the sale of the poet's autograph correspondence with his music publisher at a price nearly equal to that which the poet received for the whole of his writings? Had the correspondence of our great publishers been kept together, we should have better illustrations of our literary history than our present materials too scantily supply.

Messrs. Puttick & Simpson have been considerate enough to give us in this Catalogue a taste of Moore's correspondence with Power in several well-selected extracts. From these we now intend to draw almost at random,—enlarging our materials, however, by the aid of certain letters placed at our disposal by a purchaser at the sale. Here is an anecdote of the Duchess of Kent and the poet.—

"I have been passing three days with the Duchess of Kent and our little future Queen at Earl Stoke Park, and we had a great deal of music. The Duchess sang some of my Melodies with me better than I ever heard them performed. I promised to send her some of the Songs of mine she most liked, and I should be glad if you would get them bound together (not too expensively) for me to present to her. They are as follows. Meeting of Ships—Indian Boat—The Evening Gun—Say what shall be our Sport, (can you detach this from the Nationals?)—Keep your Tears for me—The Watchman—I love but thee (beginning 'If after all')—Reason and Folly and Beauty. She has promised me copies of some very pretty German things she sung."

Here is another little bit, descriptive of Stevenson, known to every admirer of music. It describes him on "his last legs."—

"Stevenson I did not see. He was confined with illness during the first weeks of our stay, and though I called two or three times I could never see him. He then set off for Lord Headfort's, where we were asked to meet him, but in the whirl and multiplicity of our engagements we were unable to compass it. By all accounts the poor fellow is completely past his work. I am told he says of his legs (looking down mournfully at them) 'Oh, by G-d they are very good legs—but they won't walk.'"

Elsewhere we find some passages of interest relative to the *Times* newspaper. Here are two extracts.—

"I have had also, within these three days [he is writing in 1822], through Brougham, a proposal which (though I cannot accept of it) flatters me exceedingly. It is that I should replace the present powerful Editor of the *Times* (who is ill) in writing the leading Article for that paper. It was proposed to pay me at the rate of twelve hundred a year."

"I trust [he is writing in 1827] I shall be able to get through this next year, without doing anything more for the *Times*. This between ourselves. I want to devote myself entirely to our Miscellany and my Life of Byron. We are about to cut down our establishment to one woman servant, which will make a difference, I think, adequate to \* \* \* in our expenses—not so much from the actual saving of what a servant costs, as from the impossibility of company keeping which it will bring with it."

Moore is not unfrequently snappish about the publishers. Murray and the Messrs. Longman are equally abused. The former is accused of "shuffling," and the latter of "evading" engagements. Both are probably charged unjustly;—for Moore, like too many others, seems to have written from the impulse of the moment, and to have committed his angry thoughts to paper without the fear of an auctioneer's Catalogue before him:—a necessary fear, it will now be seen, when auctioneers have contrived to add a new terror to the horrors of death.

Moore's 'History of Ireland' and the offers that were made to him in 1828, when 'Annuals' were in full vigour, form the subjects of more than one letter:—e.g.—

"I don't know whether I before told you that, in refusing the proposal of the Longmans with respect

to the History of Ireland, I mentioned to them that as to the price which was mentioned (500*l.*), I could get as much from any of the scurvy annuals for a short Tale, curiously enough a week or two afterwards I received actually an offer of 500*l.* for 100 pages prose or verse, 25*l.* to be paid down immediately, which, though a most tempting proposal and most creditable to the spirit of the proposers, I shall be able to decline. \* \* I suppose you heard from Clark the trick the Keepsake gentlemen have played upon me. Having offered me 600*l.* for my name, on being refused they took it for nothing. I ought not to have been so lenient with them as I have been. The Longmans have, I hope, sent you my Squibs."

Other offers were made to him still later. Mr. Colburn it appears, would have been glad to have engaged him.—

"I have had lately most splendid offers from Colburn (through his new Editor), to furnish *Squibs* to his Magazine—but have declined. 'Terms (says Bulwer in his letter) which only so opulent a publisher as Mr. Colburn could afford to offer.' I could not, however, let this boast pass without saying, that liberal as was Mr. Colburn's offer, I must do the *Magnificos* of the *Times* the justice to say that it fell short of them. It was for such things as I sent the *Times* he had asked."

Here is another of the same character, made as Mr. Colburn's was in 1832.—

"A man called upon me yesterday, who told me he had enquired for me at your house on Tuesday. Harding, the bookseller of Cornhill. He came expressly by the Mail to offer me 1,000 guineas for a Poem—the third of the size of *Lalla Rookh*—to have illustrated in the manner of Rogers's. I asked him was he aware that Rogers's book had cost him 7,000*l.*? He said, yes—'But then the badness of the times,' said I. All this, he answered, that he had taken into consideration, but the rage for illustrated works was so great, that he had no doubt of success, if I would write the Poem. I did not like to give the poor man a decided 'No.' So he returned by the Mail last night as he came. I mention this to you, because you were talking of having the Evenings in Greece illustrated, and it is at least a bookseller's opinion in favour of the success of such a plan."

'Tom Crib,' as might be expected, forms the subject of more than one letter. Here are extracts derived direct from the originals.—

"My 'Tom Crib' (upon which you must be very silent, as I have gone to the trouble of having my MS. copied before it goes to the printer, in order to enable me to deny it stoutly) is nearly ready, and I am yours for the remainder of the year."—Feb. 26, 1819.

"I heard yesterday from the Longmans that the first edition of 'Crib' (2,000 copies) is nearly sold already, and they have worked off 2,000 more. This is spanking work."—March 16, 1819.

"Mind you deny 'Crib' stoutly for me. I told the Longmans it would have been better to get some inferior bookseller to publish it; but they had stronger hopes from it than I fear would be realized. Indeed, from the non-appearance of the second edition, I rather suspect it has proved a mere 'flash in the pan.' But we must have failures sometimes, if it were for nothing but to put us upon our mettle."—March 25, 1819.

We have said that almost all Moore's letters touch on money matters. Here is an entire epistle written in the panic year of 1825.—

"To Mr. James Power.

"My dear Sir,—The spring of Finance is now quite dry with me, and 'as a Hart panteth after the water-brook' so do I after the water-mark of a Bank of England note. If you can spare me twenty pounds, I will repay it in March, when I must draw either upon *Hook* or *Crook*, that established firm of all Ways and Means Gentlemen.—I hope Bishop is at work.—Yours ever, T. MOORE."

"Feb. 4, 1825."

Two months later he is again on money matters.—

"I enclose you a Bank Post Bill for 20*l.* with many many thanks. I think it will be difficult to keep from some puzzle in our Dr. and Cr. accounts with all these little side-long transactions. It at

least gives you more trouble than I have a right to inflict on you."

In the same month and year (April, 1825) he is thus expressive about money matters:—the *italics* are the poet's own.—

"I was going, indeed, to write to you upon the old subject of Finance being brought to what I told you I should, when I sent up the twenty pounds; but I have not time now to enter at large into the ways and means measure I meant to propose. My great object is *not* to press upon you more than is absolutely necessary, but by a sort of *kite-flying* process between you and the Longmans to keep myself afloat till better prospects open upon me. As there is plenty of *capital* among us—on your side in credit and character, on that of the Longmans in *money*, and on mine in *head*, it cannot be called mere paper work amongst us, and without borrowing from friends (which is the last thing I shall ever be driven to), or sinking myself deeper with you and the Longmans than I should wish, I have no *other* mode of getting on for this year. I doubt whether I have written as you will understand, and have not time to look over what I have said, but *more* when I write again."

We shall have occasion to refer to this curious Catalogue when we chronicle the result of the two days' sale of these really important materials for a due understanding of the position and character of Moore. Lives should not, like Touchstone's egg, be roasted all on one side—or served up, as is too commonly the case, with butter on both sides. We want, in a perfect representation, the warts and moles, as well as the speaking eyes and finely chiselled lips.

#### Traits of American Indian Life and Character.

By a Fur Trader. Smith, Elder & Co.  
Solitary Rambles and Adventures of a Hunter in the Prairies. By John Palliser, Esq. Murray.

THAT the trapper, whose whole life is passed in hunting the beaver and in holding his own against the aborigines, should entertain but an indifferent opinion as to the virtues of the Red man, is perhaps, after all, no great impeachment. In the Rotunda at Washington are two bas-reliefs which severally express and epitomize the story of the relations of the White man to the Red, the Black, and all other colours of mankind the world over:—one of these represents William Penn buying land from a native chief,—the other shows Daniel Boone in the act of slaying two Indians. These are types of the opposite policies—those of justice and of strength—by which the world may be governed; and it may be feared that with some at least Daniel Boone is a greater hero than William Penn.

Our Fur Trader—as results from his training and becomes his profession—is one of those who express a thoroughly genuine contempt for mild measures. A firm hand, a quick eye, a hardy frame combine to render him a bold and safe rover of the wilderness; but we must altogether object to him as a teacher and a moralist. Even at the risk of being classed with "the drawing-room writers" at whose misapprehensions about Indian character he makes himself "merry and mad" by turns,—we will not hesitate to affirm our belief that many Red men have exhibited traits of extraordinary generosity and nobleness, and that not a few of them have displayed virtues which white men might well emulate. It is perhaps all the more necessary to insist on this, inasmuch as these "Traits of Indian Life," being inscribed to the wife of the Governor of the Hudson's Bay Company's Territories, may be received by the unwary as in some sort official. Against one of the principles here laid down—namely, that on the first discovery of a new country it would be wise and politic to treat

the natives of that country "with the greatest severity"—we enter an indignant protest.

Yet, in spite of its false views—its cruel utilitarianism,—this book will probably find admiring readers. The matter is interesting, the style spirited and vigorous. The work has an air of reality and nature very unusual in works of its literary paternity,—and there is art as well as power in the dramatic form in which the anecdotes whereon it is based are made to address the imagination. No doubt, some of the vividness of effect is due to the picturesque and striking scenery in which the drama is laid; but the way in which the aspects, incidents, and details of Indian life are placed before the reader's eye is due in great measure to the graphic capacities of the author.—Of the long story of Red Feather, the gallant war-chief of the Flatheads, we will—as an example—give the tragic close.—

"The Indians were mostly employed in the grave operations of the preserved meat and leather business, for which the capital in hand had been found by the poor buffalo. Scaffolds surrounded the camp in all directions, garnished with jerked meat, undergoing the process of desiccation; partly effected by the sun's rays, and partly by the smouldering fires maintained beneath. Elsewhere might be seen large frames fashioned of poles tied together, upon which the skins of the animals who had furnished these supplies for many future banquets and merrymakings, were spread to dry, either in their natural state, intended for coverings, or with the hair detached, in preparation for cutting into cords, or for other useful purposes. Everywhere, I may here remark, only women were visible in active employment; for upon them the whole duty of the camp devolved, even to the 'hewing of wood and drawing of water'; their lordly masters thinking themselves quit of all obligation by the slaughter of the animals of the chase and the defence of their camp against the invasion of their hereditary enemies the Blackfeet. At high noon, the 'lords of the creation' might be observed lazily stretched out, sunning themselves upon their extended buffalo robes; or idly visiting the precincts of the camp in quest of some favourite charger. Here and there a young stripling exercised a yearling colt to the cord, or was engaged in breaking-in some refractory member of his parent's teams to the bridle or the burthen—perhaps indulging himself with a gallop, barebacked, among the lodges, exhibiting the paces of his steed with the intention of attracting the gaze of some tawny-visaged damsel. Within the lodges, the men were either napping lazily as in the sunnier spots outside, or still worse, whiling away the time with the excitement of gambling."

The hour was noon, the scene such as I have described. A listless ennervation pervaded the camp, occasioned by the extreme heat; for it was now midsummer. Groups of children were amusing themselves, as happier children are wont to do, shaded under the mimic lodges they had erected; their noisy prattling alone disturbing the general stillness. I had been some days expecting the arrival of the 'Red Feather,' who was again off in quest of the coveted Black so often mentioned. It was important to my views that I should see the chief, since his knowledge of a particular section of the country qualified him in an eminent degree to advise me on some points necessary to the success of the expedition. My impatience increased daily, and I was anxiously looking out for his arrival, when, at the time mentioned, a cry was raised which betokened an approaching party. The whole camp was speedily on the out-look to discover the name and quality of their visitors. At first, only a cloud of dust was visible, but presently a single horseman, approaching at a gallop, gave rise to additional conjecture. When he drew near, the son-in-law of 'Red Feather' was recognized; but he uttered no cry: his horse was wearied to the last extremity, scarcely could its tottering legs sustain the weight of the body as it galloped painfully towards us. Portentous tidings were doubtless on the eve of reaching us; not a voice was lifted to inquire their tenor, as if every one intuitively anticipated evil. In a few moments, the weary beast came panting up to the lodges, and the tidings of his rider were delivered in

a few sad words; leaping hastily to the ground, he only said:—"Red Feather" is no more, he is gone the way of his fathers! Then arose the cry of the fatherless and the widow; the wail of the companion and the friend. The silence that had before prevailed was now contrasted by the heart-rending expressions of mourning uttered on all sides; and the camp, lately so listless and peaceable, resounded with one general wail of grief and lamentation. The death of the noble chief of the Flathead warriors, according to the account of his surviving companion, was most tragical. The adventurers had reached the precincts of the Blackfeet camp unobserved, and after much skilful manœuvring had succeeded in securing the envied Black, together with the horse on which the witness had reached his own camp, as they were feeding in open day in a meadow close by the lodges. They had scarcely time to mount their prizes when they were discovered. Giving rein to their steeds, they uttered a shout of defiance, and struck in the direction of home, pursued after a short interval by a numerous party of the enemy. But they were safe from pursuit. They had, as they knew, secured the two fleetest runners of the band, and set at nought all the endeavours of their pursuers to overtake them. Prompted by the dictates of their fury, the latter resorted to a common expedient to wreak their vengeance. The wind, which had till now been scarcely perceptible, began to blow freshly from the river. The 'Red Feather,' whose horse showed not the least symptom of distress, had reined him up and stopped for some minutes as if in defiance of the enemy. Suddenly the pursuing party stopped, and in a moment a bright blaze gave warning to the 'Red Feather,' that no time was to be lost; they had set fire to the plain. Driven by the fierce wind, the flame advanced with surprising speed: a broad strip of marly soil destitute of all vegetation lay before them, beyond which the fire could not pass. To reach this was their only chance of safety. The distance was easily accomplished by the narrator, since he was close to the margin when the flames arose; but the 'Red Feather' was less fortunate; his act of defiance cost him his life. When in safety himself, the Indian turned to ascertain the progress of his father-in-law. He was within a quarter of a mile of the desired haven. The Black strove gallantly to reach it, but all his efforts were useless; the raging element, fed with the dry grass, advanced with the speed of an eagle. A short few moments and all was over. The 'Red Feather' lay a blackened corpse among the smoking ashes, his gallant steed beside him! Such was the melancholy end of the boldest warrior of the Flathead tribe, whose renown yet lives among the wild races to whom his name was in days of yore familiar."

The simple yet graphic narrative in which the author of the second volume above named tells of his adventures in the North-West Prairies, conveys vividly to the reader the impression that he has before him the actual life of the sportsman of those wild regions, divested of the luxuriant descriptions which are so thickly scattered over the pages of Ruxton and Fenimore Cooper. Fully as we must concede to the latter writer the praise of having thrown himself more fully than perhaps any one else has ever done into the life which he portrays, we have yet a zest for the real unaffected prose of Mr. Palliser:—and, as regards their several dangers and difficulties, his adventures do not fail in interest when compared with those of Mr. Ruxton. As, however, the lands which they visited and the tribes with whom they respectively sojourned were different, so was the game which repaid their respective courage and enterprise. If Mr. Ruxton could relate many a stirring tale of achievement in the South, Mr. Palliser has the glory to himself of bearing off the spoils of five grisly bears.

The hunting-grounds described in this volume lie along the course of the Upper Missouri and Yellow-stone rivers, in the districts still inhabited by the Assinaboine, Sioux, and Minitaree Indians. They have, so far as we are aware, been noticed in only one volume before pub-

lished—the *Travels of Maximilian, Prince of Wied*, which appeared some ten or twelve years ago. The Prince, however, does not seem to have been himself a very experienced sportsman. He travelled—as Princes are apt to do—with a large retinue; and it was not his lot—as it was more than once that of Mr. Palliser—to be out for days with no companion but a noble Indian dog, in the depth of a winter of almost Polar cold,—sometimes nearly frozen to death,—always dependent wholly on his gun for the sustenance of himself and his canine friend, and therefore, when game was scarce, at times running a narrow chance of starvation,—and exposed to constant perils from rival tribes of Indians—who were (when he was there) in a constant state of war, and who are no longer, as novelists are too apt to lead their readers to suppose, in wholesome fear of the prowess of the white man. Mr. Palliser's book is full of anecdotes illustrative of these "children of nature"; of whom for the period (about ten months) that he was with them he has probably seen more than any other writer except Mr. Catlin. In almost all cases he corroborates the statements of that accurate describer of Indian manners both as to their virtues and their vices. It is not easy within the limits of a short notice, and from a work which teems with adventure, to make such selections as shall give the reader an adequate idea of its real character:—and we must content ourselves with a couple of extracts illustrating the sort of adventure which travellers of Mr. Palliser's stamp may expect to meet with in the Prairies.—

"About three months previous to my arrival at Fort Union, and in the height of the buffalo breeding season, when their bulls are sometimes very fierce, Joe was taking the Fort Union bull with a cart, into a point on the river above the Fort, in order to draw home a load of wood, which had been previously cut and piled ready for transportation the day before, when a very large old bison bull stood right in the cart track, pawing up the earth, and roaring, ready to dispute the passage with him. On nearer approach, instead of flying at the sight of the man that accompanied the cart, the bison made a headlong charge. Joe had barely time to remove his bull's head-stall and escape up a tree, being utterly unable to assist his four-footed friend, whom he left to his own resources. Bison and bull, now in mortal combat, met midway with a shock that made the earth tremble. Our previously docile gentle animal suddenly became transformed into a furious beast, springing from side to side, whirling round as the buffalo attempted to take him in flank, alternately upsetting and righting the cart again, which he banged from side to side, and whirled about as if it had been a band-box. Joe, safe out of harm's way, looked down from the tree at his champion's proceedings, at first deplored the apparent disadvantage he laboured under, from being harnessed to a cart; but when the fight had lasted long and furious, and it was evident that both combatants had determined that one or other of them must fall, his eyes were opened to the value of the protection afforded by the harness, especially by the thick strong shafts of the cart against the short horns of the bison, who, although he bore him over and over again down on his haunches, could not wound him severely. On the other hand, the long sharp horns of the brave Fort Union bull began to tell on the furrowed sides of his antagonist, until the final charge brought the bison, with a furious bound, dead under our hero's feet, whose long fine drawn horn was deep driven into his adversary's heart. With a cheer that made the woods ring again, down clambered Joe, and while triumphantly caressing, also carefully examined his chivalrous companion, who, although bruised, blown, and covered with foam, had escaped uninjured."

Our author himself was less fortunate in a personal adventure with an enemy of the same kind,—though he came, in fact, unscathed out of an involuntary evolution the chances of which he would scarcely like to affront again.—

"One beautiful clear cold morning in January, I started to shoot some prairie fowl. \* \* \* I had not been long at this spot when an Indian overtook me, and said in Sioux, 'Ho! my friend (*how coonah*), I saw the track of your long foot in the snow.' He wanted me to help him in stalking up three buffalo bulls that were feeding in some willows at a little distance. I accordingly started off with him, and when we came within about a third of a mile of the spot, I went carefully round to leeward, and directed the Indian to go and give them his wind by approaching on the other side, as soon as he thought I had reached my intended post, whether I knew they would make in order to pass through to the open plain. So accurately had the Indian calculated time and distance, that I was hardly at my place when a huge bull thundered head-long by me, and received a shot low and close behind the shoulder as he passed. He stumbled on for about ten paces, and lay quietly down. I waited to reload, and on going up found him stone dead. The Indian then joined me, and said that the other two bulls had not gone far, but had taken different directions, so we agreed that he should pursue one, and I the other. I soon came in sight of mine. He was standing a little way off on the open plain, but the skirting willows and brushwood afforded me cover within eighty yards of him, profiting by which I crept up, and taking a deliberate aim, fired. The bull gave a convulsive start, moved off a little way, and turned his broadside again to me. I fired again, over a hundred yards this time; he did not stir. I loaded and fired the third time, whereupon he turned and faced me, as if about to shew fight. As I was loading for a fourth shot he tottered forward a step or two, and I thought he was about to fall, so I waited for a little while, but as he did not come down I determined to go up and finish him. Walking up, therefore, to within thirty paces of him, till I could actually see his eyes rolling, I fired for the fourth time directly at the region of the heart, as I thought, but to my utter amazement up went his tail and down went his head, and with a speed that I thought him little capable of, he was upon me in a twinkling. I ran hard for it, but he rapidly overhauled me, and my situation was becoming anything but pleasant. Thinking he might, like our own bulls, shut his eyes in making a charge, I started suddenly to one side to escape the shock, but, to my horror, I failed in dodging him, for he bolted round quicker than I did, and afforded me barely time to protect my stomach with the stock of my rifle, and to turn myself sideways as I sustained the charge, in the hopes of getting between his horns, he came plump upon me with shock like an earthquake. My rifle stock was shattered to pieces by one horn, my clothes torn by the other; I flew into mid-air, scattering my prairie hens and rabbits, which had hitherto hung dangling by leather thongs from my belt, in all directions, till landing at last, I fell unhurt in the snow, and almost over me—fortunately not quite—rolled my infuriated antagonist, and subsided in a snow drift. I was luckily not the least injured, the force of the blow having been perfectly deadened by the enormous mass of fur, wool, and hair that clothed his shaggy head-piece."

Mr. Palliser's book is illustrated by sketches that help the reader to a lively understanding of the perils which the sportsman challenges in the hunting-ground of America.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*The Maiden's Tower: a Tale of the Sea.* By Emilie Flygare Carlen. 3 vols.—This romance might have issued from the Minerva Press, in "the golden time" when "Anne of Swansea" and *Regina Maria Roche* were in the ascendant; and as such, it resembles "The Rose of Tistelön" more nearly than certain later tales by Madame Carlen which we have preferred to the fierce and gloomy story just named.—The race of preternaturally wicked sea-monsters, having refined, high-hearted, and affectionate wives,—the combinations of blood-thirsty crime with gracious atonement—*the poor child of danger* who is always maltreated, and lost to be found again—the delightful maiden from time immemorial reserved for his reward—have been one hundred times, already, presented

to the public; and there is no national spice or savour in the new preparation to render it palatable to partakers of any age. Madame Carlen's sea-pictures may be praised as the most forcible specimens of marine-painting by a woman that have been exhibited. But the Amazon most vigorous on land proves but awkward and ill assured at handling a rope; and must be described as "at sea"—in more senses of the word than one—when she gets into blue water.

*The Clintons; or, Deeps and Shallows of Life.* 3 vols.—A love-story belonging to the school of semi-domestic, semi-fashionable novels in favour some score of years since; and not by any particular merit calculated to revive a taste which has declined in favour of what is more homely or more vigorous in fiction. The author of "The Clintons" lags many a mile behind Mrs. Gore,—is deficient in the clever but coarse touches of humour which made Mrs. Trollope's earlier novels amusing,—and does not approach in probability or sprightliness the anonymous author of "The Flirt," who has, to our disappointment, disappeared from the circle of those telling tales and those loving to hear them told.—There is nothing to offend in "The Clintons"; but there is little to attract, and less to retain the reader.

*Sir Frederick Derwent.* By the Author of "Fabian's Tower," and "Smugglers and Foresters." 3 vols.—Trouble may be spared to persons frequenting circulating libraries, uncertain what manner of interest may be expected from "Sir Frederick Derwent," if it be briefly stated that we were reminded, as we read, of the late Miss Pickering's novels. This is a romance of every-day life—showing how an agreeable and facile bachelor, of charming temper and unfixed principles, is led upward to goodness and virtue, and confirmed in a conscience as regards claims and duties, by the events that follow the arrival at his country seat of two girls. The one is melancholy niece, who has suffered much, and desires a retired and self-sacrificing life—the other, who accompanies her, is as young, as beautiful, as accomplished as herself, but more elastic in her spirits and more energetic in action. At a first glance Clarice will be recognized as something far different from the threadbare humble friend. Sir Frederick Derwent soon becomes tenderly gallant in his attentions to her,—and a gay neighbourhood, accustomed to his lively presence at pic-nics, cricket-matches, dances on the green, archery meetings, and flower-shows,—takes to heart the Baronet's growing sobriety,—and is compelled at last to give up the jovial Sir Frederick in despair. On this main argument of the story many accessory and episodical incidents are hung.—A young clergyman, of unworldly quality, is fitted up for the solace of the melancholy Laura Derwent; being during part of the tale forbidden to approach her, by a family feud. Then, Clarice, too, has her mystery—proving to be no humble companion, but a travelling heiress in eclipse—having a crack-brained mother and a scheming Croatian step-father. She is not allowed to complete the regeneration of the easy-going middle-aged English bachelor without tolerably vigorous efforts being made to interrupt her good work by rival maids, wives, and widows,—and also by her foreign family-connexions. The above elements of confusion are wrought up into a grand crisis. This, however, will only excite apprehension sufficient to quicken curiosity. It was impossible to dream that "Sir Frederick Derwent" would end tragically,—the reverse, accordingly, proves to be the case.

*Great Circle Tracts and Distances, and Azimuths without Calculation.* By Robert Russel.—The object of the author in this publication is, to simplify the solution of the problems in navigation which are worked out on ship-board. The pamphlet is accompanied by a chart and a diagram:—which latter is constructed on the following principle.—Every great circle cuts the equator in two points diametrically opposite; therefore, a series of great circles drawn through a given point in the equator in every possible direction will all meet in another point in it 180° distant from the former.—If a globe, mounted in the ordinary way, have such a series of great circles drawn upon it,—and be pro-

vided with a transparent casing on which the earth's surface is delineated,—the great circle passing through any two places shown on the latter, can be found by turning it round until they fall upon one of the circles described on the former. If this circle be traced on the transparent casing from the one point to the other, it will correctly represent the great circle tract between them. On this principle, projecting the transparent surface and the circles according to Mercator's rules, the present diagram is constructed:—and we think that it possesses great practical simplicity, and has the advantage of giving a very rapid solution to the required problem.

*Annual of Scientific Discovery; or, Year-Book of Facts in Science and Art for 1853.*—A few weeks since we noticed Mr. Timbs's "Year-Book of Facts":—the American "Annual" is a work of similar character, published at Boston. It is edited with very considerable judgment,—and represents the progress of scientific discovery on both sides of the Atlantic in a very satisfactory manner. We have read the "Notes by the Editor on the Progress of Science in 1852" with much interest. They have afforded us more information regarding intellectual progress in the United States than anything that we have lately met with, and furnished us with some important details of the present state of the Smithsonian Institution at Washington. Mr. Smithson, to whom this Institution owes its origin, first left his property to the Royal Society of London, for the publication of original memoirs and the establishment of new researches. Though, for reasons which are not clearly understood, this valuable fund was subsequently lost to this country, we hail with hearty good-will the progress of the Institution which was founded amongst our brethren of the West. The publication of valuable memoirs on various branches of science, under the title of "Smithsonian Contributions"—and the free distribution of these over every portion of America and Europe—have been extensively carried out. A general system of meteorological observation has been organized; and the Institution has now a corps of trained intelligent men, between two and three hundred in number, extended over the entire continent of America. Nearly 12,000 books and pamphlets have been collected for the Smithsonian Library;—and in the Museum of Natural History are 2,500 species of mammalia, fishes, reptiles, &c.,—900 skulls and skeletons,—and 3,000 skins of European and American birds. Considering the very short time since this Institution has been brought into working condition, these facts prove an unusual amount of energy on the part of those intrusted with its direction. The following is a curious example of the practical application of a chemical discovery.—"Naphthaline, formerly a chemical product of great rarity, is now extracted in considerable quantities from the refuse coal-tar of gas-works. This substance in external appearance greatly resembles purified stearine, and the use to which it is applied is somewhat curious. Put up in cakes, and inclosed in waxed cloths to prevent evaporation, it is sent to California and other distant regions, where, dissolved in weak alcohol, it furnishes the best of burning fluids,—a great saving being thus effected in freights, risks, &c."—All who are desirous of obtaining the most concise account of the discoveries in science—and of useful applications in art and manufacture—will do well to place the American "Annual" beside the British "Year-Book of Facts" on the shelves of their libraries.

*The Colonies of Great Britain.* Part I. Europe, Asia and Africa. Part II. America and the West Indies. Part III. Australia and New Zealand.—These are very small tracts, issued by the National Society, and intended for circulation on a large scale. They present in a few pages a general idea of the extent and variety of our Colonial system,—though the most cursory glance will show that they are often imperfect as to their facts. We opened Part I. by accident at the last page,—whereon we note several errors which ought not to appear in a popular compilation. In ten lines on Borneo there are as many mis-statements. "The town of Borneo"—there is no town called Borneo;

"Sarawak was given up to Great Britain"—it was not given up to Great Britain; "Sir James Brooke has since been appointed governor of the settlement under the British Crown"—there is no settlement at Sarawak under the British Crown, and of course Sir James has not been appointed to a post that does not exist; Sir James Brooke is not "Rajah of Labuan"; &c. &c. The National Society, while doing a service in the issue of cheap guide-books and class-books, should take care not to lessen the good which they do by having such imperfect compilations as these on the Colonies of Great Britain.

*The Mississippi and Ohio Rivers, containing Plans for the Protection of the Delta from Inundation.* By Charles Ellet, Jun., C.E.—The Ohio is an inclined plane, in length about 500 miles:—the computed length of the Mississippi from its confluence with the Ohio to the mouth of the southward Pass is 1,173 miles, and the average descent 3*½* inches per mile. In the summer and autumn, when the river is low and water is scantily supplied by its tributaries, the surface of the Mississippi is depressed at the head of the Delta about forty feet—and as we approach New Orleans twenty feet below the top of its banks. When the rains set in, the river usually rises until the month of May; when it fills up its channels, overflows its banks, and spreads many miles over the low lands to the right and left of its trace. By these overflows nearly 40,000 square miles are inundated:—and it is to the consideration of this subject that Mr. Ellet's work is directed. It is full of information,—and the arguments put forth appear to show that at no very large cost these overflows could be prevented. Mr. Ellet's plans for effecting this object are, we understand, favourably received in the United States, and will in a few years be fully carried out. The unnatural scales on which all the sections are drawn cannot be sufficiently condemned, as giving a false idea in every instance of height and distance.

*Scientific Dialogues, intended for the Instruction and Entertainment of Young People.* By the Rev. Jeremiah Joyce. A New Edition, containing the recent additions to Science. By Charles V. Walker, Esq.—Joyce's "Scientific Dialogues" was the familiar book of our childhood. We remember when thirty years since some six or eight small volumes were constantly referred to us in all our scientific difficulties. Numerous books on science have appeared since that time; but the truthfulness and clearness of Joyce have insured to his dialogues a first-class place even now. Reprinted in a volume of nearly 500 pages, with numerous new and original illustrations, Joyce appears to have here a renewal of his lease,—and we have no doubt will continue to hold his position as really a satisfactory volume on any point of science which may interest "young people."—Mr. Walker has performed his task well. The information added is in the true spirit of the original work; and it includes the recent discoveries in astronomy, optics, magnetism, and photography.

*A Treatise on the Law and Practice relating to Letters Patent for Inventions.* By J. P. Norman.—Here is yet another attempt to elucidate the law of patents. It is dedicated to the Lord Chancellor, and is evidently the result of much reading on its subject. The index is extremely copious, and the notes are given with a convenient fullness and brevity.

**AMERICAN BOOKS.**—There is but one course to be pursued with regard to many of these,—namely, simple announcement:—so many are the forms in which they come before us, and so difficult is it in certain cases to distinguish what is apocryphal from what is authentic. Here, for instance, is *The Captive in Patagonia; or, Life among the Giants*, by Capt. Bourne,—which has been already reprinted. Who can read this without remembrances of the "Type" novels creeping through his mind, not that Capt. Bourne approaches Mr. Melville as a vigorous yarn-spinner.—We have been, in like manner, for some time, perplexed by *The Australian Captive; or, an Authentic Narrative of Fifteen Years in the Life of William Jackman, in which among various Adventures, is included a Forest Residence of a Year-and-a-half among the Cannibals of Nufus' Land, on the Coast of the Great Australian*

*Right, &c. &c.*—Edited by the Rev. J. Chamberlayne.—The Reverend editor is cautious; he assures his public that while he "believes William Jackman entitled to the reader's credit," he will not "endorse his statements." The memory of small daily events at such a distance of time, shown by partially educated men, under circumstances not favourable, to say the least of them, for "pencilling by the way," will be thought by some to be as marvellous as the cannibal life, here so glibly narrated and pictured.—For the present our Brother Jonathan seems to have belief for anything and everything; and we cannot do better than be cautious in trading with him for mermaids, sea-serpents, and bits of the real rock of Niagara which came down last year!—There is more reality, we suspect, exhibited through the rose-coloured glass, in *A Summer Cruise in the Mediterranean on Board an American Frigate*, by N. P. Willis, which is here neatly reprinted as a pocket volume by Mr. Bowditch.—That Mrs. Follen's "Sceptic," has been revised and improved with a view to the little English edition before us, we are apprised by a preface from the Lady herself, dated London, in February last.

A general paragraph will suffice for the following works.—*A Summary of the Law of Patents, and an Extension of Patents; with Forms and all the Statutes*, by Mr. Charles Wordsworth, is an able review and analysis of a complicated and difficult branch of law.—*Politics for American Christians: a Word upon our Example as a Nation, our Labour, our Trade, Elections, Education, and Congressional Legislation*, is a book which might have been more correctly called "Christianism applied to Active Life." It is able and thoughtful throughout, free from cant and false humility. Channing would have kept such a book close to his elbow.—The Rev. Mr. Williams's work on *The Incarnate Son of God; or, the History of the Life and Ministry of the Redeemer*, arranged generally according to "Cresswell's Harmony of the Gospels": with a concise View of the Mediatorial Economy is of the class on which we pronounce no critical opinion.—Mr. George Paterson has put forth an *Historical Account of the Fairs in Scotland; with Remarks on the present Mode of striking them, and Suggestions for a more uniform Procedure, without Prejudice to existing Interests: with an Appendix*—a work not without its interest in the Land of Cakes—as the reader will perceive when we state, from our authority, that "the amount of pecuniary value affected and fixed by the Fairs Courts in one day is greater than that adjudicated upon by all the other courts of the country in the course of a year."—We have before us an elaborate and illustrated *Description of certain Improvements in Vessels, partly applicable to other Purposes, patented by Richard Roberts of Manchester*.—On the sore subject of agricultural grievances we have an interesting and well-written pamphlet, by "A Farmer's Son," entitled *A Word or Two on the Condition of our Agricultural Labours*, in which the labour question is fairly treated.—*Tangible Typography; or, How the Blind Read* is a laudable attempt to bring the scattered points of information on a subject of deep importance into a narrow compass. It is written by Mr. E. C. Johnston, and has had the advantage of a thorough revision by the chaplain of the Blind School, St. George's Fields. To the general reader, the account of the various systems by which the blind are taught to read is highly attractive,—and Mr. Johnston's criticism on these systems appears to us moderate and judicious.—Our table shows a considerable pamphleteering activity among the lawyers and law reformers. Among the books on these topics now before us we notice *Law Reform: Transfer of Land*, by the Right Hon. \*\*\*\*,—*Judgment before Trial: a Remonstrance addressed to the Select Committee appointed by the House of Commons to inquire into the Abuses at present prevailing in certain Classes of Life Assurance Associations*, by Mr. R. H. Stromberg,—and *Remarks on the proposed Changes in the Constitution, Jurisdiction and Procedure of the Sheriff Court of Scotland*, by an Advocate, not a Sheriff.—*Cuba and Africa: the Cuban Question considered in relation to the African Race* is an abusive attack on the English govern-

ment and its policy by Mr. Ignacio Tenaza. Mr. Tenaza declares that the African race in Cuba is utterly miserable—that its condition cannot be worse,—and he prays for a change, come in whatever shape it may, so that it come quickly. It is only fair to add, that the writer carefully separates the English people—of whose "generosity, nobleness, and devotion to the cause of liberty" he has had many proofs—from the censures so freely bestowed on its Government. We suspect that Mr. Tenaza is right in some of his conjectures.

#### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

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#### THE SUMMER NIGHT: A DRAMATIC SCENE.

BY LUDWIG TIECK.

MOST of our readers will remember—and those of them who do not, may be referred to our columns for the 8*th* of May in last year—a letter which appeared there, from Mr. Albert Cohn, of Berlin,—giving an account of an early poem by Ludwig Tieck, which had been brought to light by M. Bulow, the well-known editor of *Novalis*. It is sufficient to repeat here, that the poem in question was called "*Die Sommernacht*,"—that it was said to be the very earliest poetical exercise of its distinguished writer,—and that it led him even at that early time (the age of sixteen) on to the same ground whereon in after years he reaped some of his best laurels—the *Shakspeare* field. The poem—of which we then gave an example—was very justly characterized by Mr. Cohn as being marked with evidences of the immaturity of its writer's powers,—but deeply interesting as a poet's first draught at the fountain which he never deserted all his days, and as evidence of that intelligent enthusiasm which early apprehended the *Shakspeare* greatness, then but imperfectly understood in Germany, and which that enthusiasm afterwards helped Tieck's countrymen to understand.—A hope was expressed at the conclusion of that letter that the notice in our columns might lead some one to undertake a complete translation of the poem for English readers. This appeal has been answered by a Lady,—who, having made her first acquaintance with the poem by means of the

*Athenæum*, very gracefully offers the translation to our columns as tribute. The recent death of the veteran poet gives an added interest to this record of his early years:—and we have much pleasure in completing the little history of this Fairy Sketch by its publication in the version of our country-woman

MARY MAYNARD.

(An open space, surrounded by woods and interspersed with willows, birches, firs, and other trees.)

Enter, from the wood, the boy Shakespeare.  
Nor here, nor here the pathway to my home!  
A plague upon these bushes! I'll go hunting  
For dewberries no more. Ah, well away!  
The light grows dim; how shall I find the track?  
I am besides so weary! Yet, good heart!—  
The moon will rise anon, and then the path  
Is quickly found. Meanwhile, I'll rest me here;  
E'en now the sun is sinking out of sight.

[He lies down, and gradually falls asleep.  
Cool through the alders blow the evening airs,  
Waving the weary blossoms to and fro,—  
A gentle tremor creeps through all my limbs,—  
And slumber weighs upon my heavy lids.—  
How beautiful the sun!

[Distant music from the wood; the boy sleeps.  
Puck, a Fairy, enters from the wood.

Puck. There sinks the day adown; behind him  
streaks

His purple mantle wrought about with gold;  
And the last ray that gilt the fir-tops high  
Trembles and dies; Twilight descends on earth.  
The glow-worm now begins to light her lamp,  
The crystal dew to bless each little flower.  
The pale moon yellows, in the stubble-field  
The cricket chirps, and from her hiding-place  
The flutter-mouse comes forth with silent flight.—  
Shall I the wanderer from his path mislead,  
The thirsty traveller far from the sweet brook?  
Or scatter gold in dreams into the lap  
Of goodwife nodding o'er her household work,  
That she may fret at waking?—But behold.  
In darkness fades the last red streak of eve;  
I must bide here and wait the Fairy-king.

Hither, ye shadows,  
Swiftly o'er lakes,  
Swiftly o'er meadows,  
And through the brakes;  
O'er mountain and level,  
To fairies' revel!

Many a star  
Gleams through the thicket;  
Softly afar  
Sings the field-cricket:—  
O'er hollow and height,  
And waters bright,  
Hither, hither, ye Fairies light!

Song of Fairies (in the distance).  
We float through the golden mist,  
We greet the departing day,  
We come on the beams of the moon  
And joyously follow the call.

[The Fairies enter.

Puck. Where lingered ye so long?  
1st Fairy. The sun not yet  
Had wholly sunken, and so long as he  
Makes heaven radiant with his golden track  
I may not leave the depths of this green wood.

Puck. Say, have ye brought the dew from opening  
roses,

Warmed by the moon,—whereof to make a bath  
For the fair Majesty of Elfin-land?

2nd Fairy. Behold it in this diamond collected.  
3rd Fairy. And in this urn of tender rose-leaves  
made

I bring sweet odours from blue violet beds.

4th Fairy. Hast thou already wrought thy lord's  
behest?

Puck. Dost think me then less diligent than you?  
In few seconds to the moon I fly,

And thrice the earth encircle in an hour,—  
And should this matter take a longer time?

Behold the lilies and the rose-buds here  
I was bid pluck; here is the linden-bloom,

And here the spicy spoil of fair Ceylon.  
All that in Asia or in Africk blooms

In still sweet valleys lying far away,  
Here have I strown about; with tender feet

Here will you dance, and spicè the evening air  
With richest odours. Yonder have I made

Of silken saffron-threads, and dusty gold  
Stript from the wings of painted butterflies,  
The Elf-Queen's bed.

1st Fairy. In truth, a nimble sprite!

Puck. They come, they come! listen, how through  
the grove  
A mystic murmur thrills, and silver tones  
Come gliding to our ears! Our King draws nigh!

Chorus of Fairies.

Ye owls, be silent  
In darksome wood!  
Ye hateful serpents,  
Begone far hence!

For he cometh, the Fairy-king!

Let peace and silence  
Descend on earth!  
Rest, wandering wind!  
Hush, whispering grove!

For she cometh, the Fairy-queen!  
O chirp not, cricket!  
O breathe not, air!  
Only sweet ditty  
Of Philomel

Be heard from the forest near!

(Enter Oberon and Titania, to soft music.)

Chorus of Fairies.

By pale moon-glance,  
To fairy dance,  
With flowery crown,  
Titania comes—the mighty Queen  
Of region mortal hath not seen—

Floating adown!

*Titania. Ye fairies! draw around your mystic  
ring  
Wherein to weave your airy revelry;*  
Like billows of the ocean chase each other,  
And hover o'er the tender blades of grass.  
The dew, e'en now, like tears doth gem the flowers,—  
They weep because to-morrow they are not.

Fairy Song and Dance.

Here on smooth mead  
Glimmering with dew,  
Breathing of balm,  
Our measure we thread,  
Our sport renew;  
Light-dancing,  
And through the night-calm  
Bright-glancing;  
Floating afar  
In the lunar beam,  
We drink the gleam  
Of the evening star,—  
And make our feast  
Off the dewdrops least  
In odorous blossoms that are.

We glide o'er the grass, we spring  
From blossom to blossom,—no wing  
Rudely the floweret brushes;  
We dance on the reeds of the mere,  
And hover o'er brooklet clear,—  
No foot the young blade crushes.

*Titania. Cease! for sweet slumber steals over  
me.*

Sing now a lullaby, and take your fans  
Fashioned of rose-leaves and the Argus wings  
Of butterflies; soft coolness make around,  
And from the silver moonbeams shadow me.

Chorus of Fairies (sung softly).

O night-bird sweet,  
Thy song repeat!  
Soft vapours, fleet  
Round about our Lady's head!

O blossoms fair,  
With perfume rare  
Fill all the air  
Round about our Lady's bed!

O linden, bow  
Thy sweetness blow!  
Winds, softly blow  
Round about our Lady's bed!

*Titania. Sleep flies my lids,—some mortal must be  
near.*

*Oberon. Some mortal?*

Puck. Who so venturesome can be?  
Well at thy bidding will I punish him.

Hither I'll fetch the wild-fire from the fen  
To pierce him with its ray; I'll seek the wood  
For sharpest thistle wherewithal to whip  
His cheeks, and prick him underneath his clothes,  
For daring to profane the Fairies' rite.

*Titania. Nay see,—Oh, see!—it is a lovely boy,  
Sleeping in innocence. The moonlight plays  
About his countenance; surely, some dream  
Full of rich sunshine doth environ him,  
For look at his sweet smiling!—Oberon!*

*It was but yester'een with fitting pomp*

We held our reconciliation-feast:—  
Should the first work of concord be revenge?  
Oh, he is like some beauteous fairy-boy!  
And should our power be used to do him ill?  
Were it not fairer, nobler, worthier,  
Of spirits high to use it for his good?  
Feelings most blessed thrill the soul of him  
Who seeketh others' bliss,—such feelings make  
Even mortals god-like. Therefore, Oberon,  
Accord my prayer,—let us not punish him,  
But with rich gifts dismiss the sleeper hence.  
*Oberon.* And yet thou know'st the laws of Fairy-  
dom;

Whose approaches—

*Titania. Was it then his fault?*  
In the wild forest has he lost his way;  
And should he suffer for the blameless chance  
That led him to the presence of immortals?  
Were it not better he should bless that chance  
Upon the morrow? O my Oberon,  
Tis the first prayer of thy appeased wife!

*Titania.* Thou wilt not cruelly deny my wish.

*Oberon.* So be it!—but what gifts wilt thou bestow?  
*Titania.* Not riches,—the desire of little souls.  
Ye fairies, gather me forget-me-nots,  
And breath of violets,—for with glorious gifts  
Will I endow him. Go,—but only call  
Blossoms that burst their silken sheaths this night,  
And never saw the sunshine,—tender thyme,  
And ilies in the moonlight glimmering.  
Begone,—and in few moments back again.

Fairies.

Disperse, disperse,  
Through bower and brake!  
Sweet odours gather,  
And bring them hither,  
Nor tarrying make.

[Exeunt Fairies.

*Titania.* I'll shed the juice of flowers over him,  
And consecrate him as a poet.

*Oberon.* Puck!

Swifter than planet, ride upon the wind:—  
Far to the north there is a moss-grown rock,—  
A foaming cataract adown it leaps  
And at its feet a thousand flowerets blow.  
These flowerets pluck:—then, wing thy upward way  
Over the sea whose sleepless billows scourge  
The iron coast with never-ceasing roar,  
Heard far away in silence of the night;  
Beyond, a rugged mountain wile thou find,  
Thereon a forest all of darksome firs,  
And, in the forest's central depth, a place  
Where never sunbeam, never moonbeam shone.  
There 'mongst the dry and hueless undergrowth,  
Betwixt the crevices of mossy stones,  
There springs a small white flower,—long time therein  
A drop of dew hath lain, and changed to red  
The pallid blossom—quickly bring it here,  
But spill not from its cup the crystal drop!  
Now hence, nor linger,—so that thou be gone  
No longer than the rest!

*Puck.* Swifter than storm! [Exit.

*Titania.* How knowest thou this flower?  
*Oberon.* While yet we lived

At variance, I would often wander o'er  
That mountain, and amid the forest's gloom  
Would sit and with the lamentations wild  
Of cavern-haunting owllets mix mine own;  
Twas then I watched the dewdrop gathering  
Within that blossom pale. In every plant  
There lives a spirit more or less akin  
Unto the Spirit of Humanity.

Some heal diseases dire; others awake  
Strange whimsies in the busy brain of man,  
While others breed Ambition, Love, or Hate.  
The flower which now I seek hath power to kindle  
The warmest glow of Fantasy. They come!

[Enter Puck and Fairies.

*Puck.* I first!

*1st Fairy.* We heard thee on the woodland verge  
And o'er the distant meadows sweep thy flight.

*2nd Fairy.* Here are forget-me-nots.

*3rd Fairy.* And violets here.

*1st Fairy.* And all were born upon this very night.

*Puck.* Here are the flowers from underneath the

rock

By the wild waterfall o'erleapt,—and here

The crimson blossom;—lo! within, unsplift,

The ruddy dewdrop like a ruby gleams.

*Titania.* I scatter all bright blossoms o'er thy head.

Sweet odours play around thy tresses fair,

And golden fantasies about thee hover!

Oh, sing as never mortal sang before,

As never mortal after thee shall sing!

All blissful feelings do I now implant

Within thy breast. Ye blossoms, into him

Infuse your strength! ye fantasies, enkindle

Within him such pure fire as never yet  
Did burn in mortal bosom ! Oh, be thou  
The greatest singer whom the world hath seen,  
Unto whose height of song in after-time  
None shall attain ! With ravishment behold  
The sunrise and the golden eventide !  
Oft through the greenwood solitary stray  
By moonlight ! Let sweet rapture thrill thy breast  
When Spring's young green first decks the branches  
brown !  
Be great,—yet all unconscious of thy greatness !  
Be gentle,—never let thy bosom swell  
With overweening pride, nor ever learn  
That thou art first of all the human race !  
*Oberon.* I shed this magic droplet over thee.  
Let clearest flame of Inspiration glow  
Within thy breast ! Let Thought with soaring flight  
Burst through all obstacles, or beat them down,  
And vault o'er every gulf rejoicing !  
Oh, let thy genius every bound o'erpass !  
Now listen in the hollow underground  
The wizard's muttered secrets,—and anon  
Soar to Heaven's portals ! Oft wile thou rejoice  
To watch the midnight tempest when the gale  
From hill to valley hurls the crashing oaks.  
Thou wilest Nature's terrors look with soul  
Entranced :—for very joy thy heart will throb  
When from the precipice thou gazest down  
In the mad waters boiling far below.  
Oh, sing as never mortal sang before,  
As never mortal after thee shall sing !  
Still shine—the myriad-lusted diamond !  
Still live—the praise of ages yet to come !  
World without end thy glory shall endure,  
In youth immortal ; and earth's latest son  
Thy lot shall envy and in transport cry :—  
Would that I had the wondrous Shakspeare been !

*Chorus of Fairies.*

O happy mortal !  
By the dread Monarch  
And Queen of the Fairies  
So highly favoured.  
O happy mortal !  
With gifts unearthly  
By spirits heavenly  
Wondrously favoured.

*Titania.* When thou art man, with gratitude recall  
This night,—and to the after-world relate  
In magic strain what dreaming thou hast seen.  
Of Oberon and Titania's discord fierce  
And of their reconciliation tell !  
This be thy thanks !—The day begins to break,  
The moon is fading, and the morning star  
Shines yonder; we must back into the wood.  
Oft will I hover round thee, lovely boy,  
And steep thy spirit in unearthly bliss,  
What time thou musest by the mirror stream  
On moonlit nights, or listeneſt entranced  
To song of Philomel from alder-grove.  
*Oberon.* Now fairies' darling, fare thee well ! I too  
Will hover near thee when, with soul intent,  
Thou gazest on the rock-born waterfall,  
Or through the solemn pine-wood wanderest,  
Or watchest with quick heart, from mountain top,  
The storm-cloud gathering in silence dread,—  
Then will I cool the fever on thy cheek,  
And through thy being sacred horror breathe.

*Chorus of Fairies.*

Morning doth wake !  
To deepest brake  
We hurry space.  
The glories soon  
Of the maiden moon  
To the day give place.  
To the valleys beneath,  
On lilies' breath,  
We wing our flight ;  
Till stary glance  
Our midnight dance  
Again shall light.

*[Exeunt all except Puck.]*

*Puck.* And shall I hence, and not one boon bestow ?  
But I am spirit of a lower sort,  
Nor can endow thee with such precious gifts  
As Oberon and his fair Consort showered.  
A merry humour unto thee I give ;  
The power, whereto thou wile, to chase away  
Dark care from every breast. Nor even me  
Thy gratitude hereafter shall forget !  
After thy death I'll raise dissension sharp,  
Loud strife among the herd of little minds :—  
Envys shall seek to dim thy wondrous page,  
But all the clearer will thy glory shine.—  
Hark, from the distant farm the watchman cock  
Is crowing to awake the sleeping day !  
Cold blows the breath of morning ; the pale moon

Yet paler grows,—the owl flits silently  
Back to her covert wood,—the nested lark  
Her pinion prunes :—I may no longer stay. *[Exit.]*

*Shakspeare (wakes gradually).* Where am I ? Ha !  
where was I ? Oh, the bliss !  
Never before I breathed so pure an air,—  
Never did such a sunburst of bright thoughts  
My soul illumine ! And the sweetest songs  
Were warbled into my delighted ear.  
Where is the region lying underneath  
That golden veil ? Oh, whither have you flown,  
Ye heavenly forms ! Sweet music, art thou hushed  
For ever ? Ah, twas but a lovely dream !  
The sun begins to rise. How light I feel !  
How bright is all that erst so gloomy seemed !  
What depth of bliss ! I draw a freer breath.  
Whence this strange yearning ?—whence this throbbing heart,

This sorrow almost forcing me to weep ?  
I never felt as now !—Meseems that e'en  
The forest yonder has another look.  
There shines the morning star ; the sun ascends,  
And tears are on my cheek. Ha ! whence this new,  
This more than human, this celestial feeling ?  
It is so well with me,—I feel myself  
So strong, so great,—methinks that I could reach  
The moon, and clasp all nature in my arms !  
New impulses are stirring in my soul,  
And every sense in freedom leaps and revels.  
Yestreen I laid me down beneath this tree,—  
Fast locked was all my spirit then,—and now,  
My former life seems like the vanished night,—  
And now the sun first rises, and from shade  
Doth region after region swift emerge !  
Oh, that I could on eagle pinions pierce  
The golden morn in giddy ecstasy !  
Oh, that I could upon the wandering clouds  
Wind-wafted through the azure deep career !  
The morning star is dying in the gash  
Of the first sunshine ; the full glory pours  
Through purple portals of the golden East.  
The nightingale in distant forest sings,  
And heavenward soars the music-dropping lark.  
There is a bliss in every breath I draw,  
In every limb a spirit seems to glow.  
Whence ? whence !—myself I scarcely can contain.

## CHARLES LAMB AND THOMAS MOORE.

The reviewer of the Memoirs of Thomas Moore [ante, p. 498.] has extracted from his Diary an account of a dinner at Mr. Monkhouse's, preceded by a remark with which most of your readers will sympathize :—“The tone is not to our liking,” and followed by another, which occasions this communication.—“We should like to see Lamb's account,” &c. The reviewer had probably forgotten that in Lamb's Works, vol. i. p. 204, there is a letter to Bernard Barton, the Quaker poet, which I will now copy, as it instructively exhibits the various impressions made by the same scene on minds so essentially different as those of the poet of wit and fashionable life and the poet of *nature* and the affections.—

*“5th April, 1823.*

“Dear Sir,—I wished for you yesterday. I dined in Parnassus, with Wordsworth, Coleridge, Rogers, and Tom Moore :—half the poetry of England constellated in Gloucester Place ! It was a delightful evening ! Coleridge was in his finest vein of talk—had all the talk ; and let 'em talk as evilly as they do of the envy of poets, I am sure not one there but was content to be nothing but a listener. The Muses were dumb, while Apollo lectured on his and their fine art. It is a lie, that poets are envious ; I have known the best of them and can speak to it, that they give each other their merits, and are the kindest critics as well as best authors. I am scribbling a muddy epistle with an aching head, for we did not quaff Hippocrate last night, marry ! It was hippocrass rather.—Pray accept this as a letter in the mean time.”

I hope I do not presume too much on your good nature in supposing you may not be unwilling to receive a further statement from one of the party, who, after thirty years, retains a distinct recollection of this dinner,—and especially of an incident which will serve to reconcile the different impressions left on the minds of Moore and Lamb the following day. I would not have ventured to offer a contradictory account.

It is remarkable that Moore should characterize this as a *singular* party. It was so,—but in a sense

the opposite of that in the writer's mind. Here are eight men at table, of whom five are poets whose works will certainly outlive their authors, —of whom by far the oldest alone survives—Samuel Rogers, an honoured specimen of the last generation of literary men. Of the three laymen—for that term may as fitly be opposed to poets as to priests or preachers—the only one yet unnamed was Gillman,—to whom all who honour Coleridge must feel grateful for the asylum which his house afforded for many years to the afflicted poet and philosopher. I have found a memorandum written by myself the next day, remarking that I had not seen Coleridge for many years in so fine a flow of spirits,—that his discourse was addressed chiefly to Wordsworth on points of metaphysical criticism—Rogers occasionally interposing a remark ; and it had not escaped my notice, that of this party of poets the only one who seemed not to enjoy himself was Moore. Then, I was able to suggest the cause which is now rendered not more certain but more manifest by the publication of his own diary. One of the numbers of Johnson's “Rambler” has the title—“A proper audience necessary to a wit.” The literary pet of the aristocracy, whose songs sung by himself were the charm of noble and even royal parties, could not feel himself at home where he was ; and his good humour was not permanently advanced, though he might for a moment be amused, by being placed next to Lamb. They had never met before ; and I can still recall to my mind the look and tone with which Lamb addressed Moore, when he could not articulate very distinctly :—“Mister Moore, will you drink a glass of wine with me ?” suiting the action to the word, and hob-nobbing. Then he went on—“Mister Moore, till now I have always felt an *antipathy* to you, but now that I have seen you I shall like you ever after.”

It is no reproach to Moore that this language was unintelligible to him. He could not possibly know that this was but the expression of Lamb's habitual feeling. In corroboration of this assurance by me, let me relate an anecdote. I engaged him once to dine with a common friend.—“There will be no one besides ourselves and the three Mr. S—s,” I said.—L. immediately exclaimed, “How I hate those three Mr. S—s !”—“Why, what do you mean ? you have never seen any one of them.”—“That's the reason. I cannot hate any one I have ever seen,” was Lamb's unaffected, heart-felt, and most true reply.—Lamb's love of the “old familiar faces” was his most peculiar and characteristic passion :—as it was his generous, self-denying nature which rendered him more remarkably the object of warm attachment to all who knew him than any man of genius whom I have ever met. His posthumous fame we must leave to the generations which are to follow,—depending, as it does, as much on the fluctuating changes in national taste as on the inherent merits of his works. His personal character, and the heroic fraternal love of Charles and Mary Lamb under circumstances of unparalleled affliction, will add their names to the examples of friendship recorded in sacred and profane history,—embalmed as they will be in the sepulchral lines of Wordsworth—

*To a good man of most dear memory  
This stone is sacred—*

written with a solemnity of tone as if it were a character given on oath :—while the tragic tale itself will live in the beautiful biographical works of Talfourd.\* Recollecting, also, a charming little work by Mary Lamb, much less known than it deserves to be, ‘Mrs. Leicester's School,’—not the most attractive book for children, but one of the wisest of books about them,—I am not ashamed to confess, that the brief discourteous mention of my old friends inflicted a sort of shock upon me, as it will upon many others. Charles Lamb is, indeed,

\* It is to be hoped that Mr. Justice Talfourd will avail himself of the comparative leisure now afforded him to recast the materials of his book, and give them that unity which circumstances rendered impossible at first. Indeed, since the appearance of the ‘Final Memorials’ there have arisen more lost letters. A chronological arrangement and the exclusion of extraneous matter, are all that is wanted to render the Life of Charles Lamb one of the most delightful standard works of biography in our language.

praised by a word the most unsuitable imaginable, for he was by no means a *clever* man;—and dear Mary Lamb, a woman of singular good sense, who, when really herself, and free from the malady that periodically assailed her, was quiet and judicious in an eminent degree,—this admirable person is drily noticed as “the poor woman who went mad with him in the diligence,” &c. I again say, Moore is not to be blamed for this:—they were strangers to him. But is not this one of the cases in which our inquiry ought to be turned from the author to the editor?

This is not an age of casuistry, but rather of indifference towards questions of speculative ethics. There are few doubters now who would submit to be led by a new Doctor Dubitantium, though he were as eloquent as Jeremy Taylor himself,—otherwise I would put as a question of great moment, whether the editor is bound to publish all that he finds among his author's papers merely because that author is an object of general curiosity. Such questions especially arise when what has been written as a diary bears indisputable marks of haste, or of being written between sleeping and waking; and still more necessary is this inquiry where a judgment is incidentally given which might lessen the opinion to be entertained of one party at least—at the censured or of the censor.

Not to try your good nature too severely, I can only in general terms protest against every passage throughout the work in which Wordsworth's name is introduced, as injurious to his memory. In the ordinary sense of the word, one of the most popular of writers could not possibly *envy* one of the least popular. Moore was in the enjoyment of present fame; but misgivings might cross his mind which I will not characterize further,—and these might affect the tone in which on every occasion Wordsworth's name is introduced, always with the effect of degrading it if not with the intention to degrade. Of all modes of spreading slander, that of repeating conversation is the most easy, without the insertion of a word that is not literally true. By the mere omission of the provocation or occasion, words assume a character which they ought not to bear,—and the Editor injures as much by what he withdraws as by what he admits. The public, and the subjects directly or indirectly interested in his book, are at his mercy,—hence the importance of receiving all communications with distrust. We are too ready to take for granted that an uncontradicted narrative must be a true one.

The best apology for the writer of the *Diary* on this occasion is, that there is manifest evidence on the face of it of having been written without any thought whatever:—containing, as it does, blunders which one cannot but wonder that Lord John did not himself detect and correct. Both poet and biographer must, one would think, have known that Milton could not have been the writer of a most un-Miltonic line,—and that, one familiar to all English readers. And besides the blunder as to the name, Moore misquotes the line,—not to improve the joke, which might have been excused, but utterly to spoil it.—“I had my first brief in the King's Bench this morning,” said Lamb's friend.—“Your *first* brief? Did not you cry out when you received it?”

Thou great *first cause*, least understood? But Moore reports the words to be—“Thou *first* best cause”!

Another petty mistake, also to be ascribed to haste, is unfortunately combined with a more serious violation of good feeling towards his host, Mr. Monkhouse:—whose reserved and stately manners, had they proceeded from one of Moore's titled friends, would have ensured his respect,—but which he perhaps thought might be disregarded in a wealthy commoner. Him he christened as the “*Macænus* of the school who contributed nothing but good dinners and silence.” Wits and talkers I had supposed considered silence in the givers of good dinners rather as an additional merit than as a defect to be sneered at. But the very name Moore would probably have corrected had he ever read his manuscript, for one which in France at least has become the ordinary term for a giver of dinners, in conformity with the *mot de Mollière's Sosie*, who therewith solves the famous

problem of the well-known profligate comedy, and therewith enriched the collection of French proverbs—

Le véritable *Amphytrion*  
C'est l'*Amphytrion* où l'on dine.

H. C. R.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

SOME interesting notes may be gleaned from the parliamentary history of the week in relation to public libraries. Acting on the hints so often thrown out in our columns and elsewhere in favour of such an extension of the Public Libraries Act as would enable towns of less than 10,000 inhabitants—and especially clusters of rural hamlets—to tax themselves for the support of a system of free reading for all classes, Mr. Ewart has given notice of his intention to move for leave to bring in a bill to amend his former act. The details of the new measure are not yet known to us,—but we will venture to urge on Mr. Ewart's attention the policy of introducing a clause making it lawful for hamlets, lying conveniently together, to associate for this literary purpose without regard to ancient boundaries of parish, town, or county. Correspondents from many sides remind us of the obstacles which these artificial circumscriptions put in the way of a free social development; and we would suggest to Mr. Ewart and his legal draughtsmen whether it would not be easy so to frame a clause as to empower adjacent hamlets, by whatsoever imaginary lines divided, to combine for this common end of popular education.—Mr. Fortescue, one of the liberal members for Louth, has brought in a bill to extend the provisions of the Public Libraries Act to Ireland,—which bill has been read a first time. This is a satisfactory consolidation of the principle established by the vote of 1850:—the future policy of the friends of this popular measure will no doubt be directed towards its gradual extension and improvement. Much has still to be done in these respects as regards the class of small towns and of associated hamlets. In these places, the great difficulty is—not to obtain books or rooms in which to house them, so much as the means of meeting the permanent charges of administration. Where there are books there must be a responsible custos:—without such an officer we have in many cases seen the books disappear never to return. But as the small towns cannot, like Liverpool or Manchester, pay the salary of a regular librarian, we would suggest that in such cases the three literary offices in every hamlet—those of postmaster, teacher and librarian—should be thrown into one hand. The duties would not conflict; as they all require the same order of public servant—a person of tact and lettered habits—for their due performance:—while the combined emoluments would be such as to engage the services of an officer fairly qualified.

Mr. Joseph Cottle (whose death we recently announced in a brief paragraph) will long, we need hardly tell the readers of the *Athenæum*, be remembered in the history of English Literature for the useful friendship which he extended to Southey and Coleridge when both were young and unknown. Southey has commemorated him for the “romantic” offer which he made him for his first epic of fifty guineas and fifty copies for his subscribers. Here was a young and inexperienced author finding a bookseller as liberal and inexperienced as himself. There were more Cottles than one. We suspect there were three,—Amos, John, and Joseph. Amos has been hitched into verse both by Byron and by Canning.

Oh, Amos Cottle! Phebus what a name,  
To fill the speaking trumpet of future fame!  
—occurs as a couplet in the ‘English Bards and Scotch Reviewers,’ while in the *Antijacobin* we remember—

And Cottle, not he that Alfred made famous,  
But Joseph of Bristol, the brother of Amos.

All three wrote verse:—we wish we could say, poetry. Amos, like Blackmore, dabbled in epics,—Joseph, like Sternhold and Hopkins, took to translating the Psalms into English verse,—and John was guilty of a poem called ‘Malvern Hills.’ Nor did Joseph, “the brother of Amos,” confine his

literary labours to verse alone. His ‘Recollections of Coleridge and Southey’ contain many curious and well-authenticated particulars, which any future biographer of our Poets will be glad to make use of. It is by his volume of ‘Recollections,’ rather than by his poetry, that Joseph Cottle will be heard of hereafter.

Mr. Cottle was a Somersetshire poet, and a bookseller,—and now we have to speak of another deceased Somersetshire poet, a baronet. Few, in our time, have heard of Cottle,—fewer, we suspect, have heard of the attempts in verse of Sir Charles Abraham Elton; yet the name of the latter was known twenty-five years ago, and not unfavourably, about the outskirts of Parnassus. He began his poetical career in 1810, by a translation of ‘Hesiod,’—which has not yet, we believe, superseded the translation of Cooke, known as *Hesiod Cooke*, and as one of the heroes of ‘The Dunciad.’ The ‘Hesiod’ was followed, after a few years’ interval, by ‘Specimens of the Classic Poets, in a chronological series, from Homer to Tryphiodorus; translated into English verse, and illustrated by biographical notices’:—to which great and undue attention was called at the time by an article in the *Quarterly Review*—then dictator, with the *Edinburgh*, of taste in poetry. Mr. Elton's next production in verse, ‘The Brothers,’ had its origin in a severe domestic bereavement—the loss of two of his sons, who were drowned together, in 1819, at Weston-super-Mare. Mr. Elton succeeded his father in the family baronetcy in 1842,—and his remains were interred on the 7th instant, in the Church of Clevedon, in Somersetshire. He was in his 75th year,—and was the brother-in-law of Mr. Hallam, the historian.

The News-sellers' Benevolent and Provident Institution has lost a good friend in the death of Mr. James Harmer, better known as Mr. Alderman Harmer and as the proprietor of the *Weekly Dispatch*. Nor is the Society insensible to its loss;—for it has marked its appreciation of the services of its late President by an appropriate resolution of regret.

New York, says the *Literary World* of that city, has lost one of its ornaments, a fine scholar, with a pen always ready in the promotion of American literature, to which he made, in a quiet, unobtrusive way, many valuable contributions,—in the death of Mr. J. L. H. McCracken, at Sierra Leone, on the 25th of March.—Mlle. Thérèse Ferenczy, of Presburg, the authoress of a great number of popular Hungarian poems, is stated to have just died in that city by her own hand.

An interesting work now proceeding in the thoroughfares of London is, the official measurement of its principal streets. This work is undertaken as preparatory to the day on which the new Cab law is to come into operation:—and when completed, the table of results will be a useful document. In a social point of view this authoritative measurement will have much importance: for although we have already in Capt. Shrapnell's ‘Stradiometer’ a marvellous series of tabulated results, these have not been adopted by the Police Commissioners,—and in the only case in which, so far as our memory serves, the question of accuracy arose in a police court, the decision was against the table and in favour of the protesting cabman. We want a list of distances from which there can be no appeal:—and such we presume will be obtained by the measurements now in progress. It would be better still could we bring into general use a cheap and simple machinery by which every vehicle could register the distance travelled.

On Thursday the 30th, there is to be a sort of Shakespeare Jubilee on a small scale at Stratford-upon-Avon:—the Tercentenary Meeting of the Stratford Grammar School, in which Shakespeare received all his Warwickshire education. The Meeting will commence with a procession and a sermon,—be supported by a distribution of prizes at the Grammar School,—and conclude (English-like) with a dinner, at which the Earl of Delawar will preside. Seriously speaking, the meeting deserves encouragement:—it is in aid of a good school. Our American brethren, who rush to Stratford like hermits to Loretto, will be present, it is said, in a goodly body.

Lecturing seems to be on the increase as a means at once of entertainment and of teaching in London,—and the list of performers in this way is beginning, as our readers know, to include all classes of well-informed and intelligent persons. Among prominent names and subjects now before the town in this way, we notice that Mr. Francis Pulszky is delivering a course of lectures on ‘Archaeology and the History of Ancient Art’ at Willis’s Rooms, in illustration of the fine collection of gems and articles of bronze, terra-cotta, &c., in the Fajerváry Museum. At the same place, Prof. Filopanti, ex-member of the Roman Constituent Assembly, is going through a course on the ‘Secret Traditions of Rome and in Vindication of its Early History against Niebuhr.’ Mr. Frederick Webster has been lecturing at Willis’s Rooms:—and at the Edwards Street Literary-Institution Mr. James Hannay is in the midst of a course of lectures on satirical literature, ranging over a considerable period of European letters, from Horace to Moore, though dealing chiefly, as they should, with the satirical writers of our own country.

Notices for tenders appear in the newspapers from the Postmaster-General. It appears, that arrangements are in progress for extending the benefits of the money-order system to all the British Colonies:—a boon of great interest to all concerned, and another noticeable link in that chain of measures by which it has been sought of late years to strengthen all the ties, moral and material, which bind the distant settlements to the mother-country. The money-orders are to be transmitted through the ordinary banks in all colonies where the post-office is under the control of the London Postmaster-General:—in the other instances, negotiations are in progress with the Colonial authorities with a view to the introduction of a uniform system.

Dr. Cullen’s plan for crossing the Isthmus of Panama by a Ship Canal has received the emphatic testimony in its favour of the veteran Alexander Von Humboldt. —“After having,” he says, “laboured, in vain, during half a century, to prove the possibility of an *Oceanic Canal*, and to point out the Gulf of San Miguel and Cupica as the points most worthy of attention,—after having regretted, almost with bitterness, in the last edition of my ‘Aspects of Nature,’ that the employment of the means which the present state of our knowledge affords for obtaining precise measurements has been so long delayed,—I ought, more than any one else, to be satisfied to see, at last, my hopes for so noble an enterprise revived.” \* \* The undertaking is by no means above the intellectual and material power which civilized nations have attained to. The work should be one to last for ever. It should not commence with a canal with locks, like the magnificent Caledonian Canal; it must be a really *Oceanic Canal*, without locks,—a free passage from sea to sea, across which the speed of the navigation will be modified, but not interrupted, by the difference in height and non-coincidence of the tides.”

The Council of the Society of Arts have unanimously agreed to select Peter le Neve Foster, Esq., formerly Treasurer to the Society, and to place his name on the List for election as Secretary, at the ensuing General Meeting on the 6th of July.

“We are happy to learn,” says the *Edinburgh Evening Courant*, “that Dr. Daniel Wilson, Secretary to the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, and author of ‘The Pre-historic Annals of Scotland,’ &c., has been appointed to the Chair of History and English Literature in the University of Toronto, Canada. The appointment is made by the Governor-General in Council, on the recommendation of the Senate of the University. Two other chairs have been filled up at the same time:—that of Geology, by Prof. Chapman, now of University College, London,—and that of Natural History, by Prof. Hinks, of Queen’s College, Cork.”—Dr. Wilson’s name will be recognized by our readers as that of an old and valued correspondent of this journal.

The Council of the Royal Geographical Society has, we are informed, furnished some very valuable instruments to Dr. Sutherland, who is about to depart for South-Eastern Africa.

There is a school at Greenwich, known as Roan’s Charity, the state of which requires, and is receiving, some little public inquisition. John Roan, it appears, from statements published by Mr. W. C. Bennett, died nearly two centuries ago, leaving his property in lands and houses to the Vicar, Churchwardens and Overseers for the time being, to be invested by them for the better education of as many “town-born children of Greenwich” as the annual funds would provide for. The school was built, and is still in existence; but it would seem to be in a state of inefficiency, and to have been converted to purposes quite foreign to those of the donor. The ignorance of the children after leaving the school, if the replies to a great number of questions put by Mr. Bennett may be taken as a fair sample of their scholastic attainments, approaches the verge of the incredible. The funds appear to be abused,—though, as in many similar cases, the time and place of this abuse are greatly shielded by the fact of the trustees rendering no public account of their stewardship. What is worst of all, Roan’s bounty is prostituted to sectarian purposes. The founder of the school kept himself clear of religious differences. He never attempted to force the collects, catechism, and Church ritual on his scholars. It is not pretended that any clause in his will, or any decree in a court of law, makes Church baptism a condition of admittance to this school. Why, then, is it very properly asked, is it made so by his trustees? Is it not a breach of the conditions of the trust for these officers to exclude children whom they have no reason to believe that he would have excluded?

A report sent to us from the directors of the Great Western Railway Literary Society shows that at the first annual meeting of the members the note of congratulation could be modestly assumed. The success of the institution seems to be undoubted. There are already 1,375 volumes in the library,—and the circulation of the books averages about 300 a month. 178 names are on the lists as paying members. The balance-sheet shows a favourable result,—there remaining upwards of 771. in the treasurer’s hands after discharging every liability.

The artizans of Nottingham are, also, commendably bestirring themselves in the matter of literature. In addition to the People’s College which that town already possesses, there will soon be an Artizans’ Library. The foundation stone was laid a few days ago, with appropriate ceremonies expressive of the nature and designs of the new institution.

A long and dreary document has made its appearance in the shape of an address from Dr. Cullen’s synod to the people of Ireland, on the subject of education. From this we gather that the synod was a sort of florish preliminary to the opening of the Roman Catholic college, called by an Irish writer—a liberal Catholic—“the Newmanian University.” The paper states, that sufficient funds have been collected in England, Ireland, and America to enable the prelates to begin their crusade against the “godless Queen’s Colleges.” It also denounces certain of the books used in the national schools of the sister island; and in the strongest terms recommends to the Romish clergy a more active care and watchfulness over education,—both that of children and that of adults.

A letter received by us from the Grantham Committee shows that the Council of the Royal Society have taken much the same view as ourselves of the proposal to erect a statue to the memory of Sir Isaac Newton in that town. They say, “they cannot but feel very warm sympathy with any proposal to do honour to the memory of Newton, and learn with great satisfaction the desire which is entertained by the inhabitants of Grantham that a monument should be erected.” But they carefully abstain from calling the proposed memorial a national monument, or expressing any opinion as to its being the duty of the country to present a work of Art to the burgesses of Grantham. A communication with which we are favoured reports that “the ground is being prepared at the expense of the Town Council:”—so that it is satisfactory to know that there will be no delay in that respect

whenever it shall be thought right to erect a national monument of one of England’s greatest minds at Grantham. Meanwhile, as we apprehend delay in that previous stage, we would suggest to the Council to see what Grantham can do for itself.

When presenting a well-signed petition to the House of Commons from inhabitants of Nova Scotia in favour of Ocean Penny Postage, Mr. Adderley has drawn from the Chancellor of the Exchequer an avowal that “he would regret the appointment of a committee” to inquire into the feasibility of the scheme of ocean penny postage, on the ground that “it would interfere injuriously with the progress of the measures of Government on the subject.” Mr. Gibson’s motion was on the papers for last Tuesday,—but there was a count-out. He has, however, stated that, “before the close of the session, he will submit the subject in some shape or other as a specific motion to the consideration of Parliament.”

The freemasons’ compositors have been dining at the Freemasons’ Tavern in celebration of their union with the society of the book department of the profession, under the auspices of Mr. Andrews, of Southampton. This union seems likely to promote the interests of all parties; and if we may judge of the feeling of the men themselves by the after-dinner enthusiasm displayed in Great Queen Street, it is extremely popular. Some donations were received; and silver snuff-boxes—a form of present somewhat obsolete and useless—were presented to the late treasurer and secretary as complimentary acknowledgments of past services.

The Court of Sardinia, undismayed by the literary squabble in Paris, has imported the prize system from that capital. We read in the *Piedmontese Gazette* a royal decree establishing a prize of 1,400 fr. for the best dramatic production of from three to five acts represented in the Theatre Royal of Turin, in the course of this year; another prize of 1,000 fr. for the second best, of from two to five acts; and a third of 600 fr. for the third best, of from one to five acts. It is easy enough to offer prizes; but the example of France proves how difficult it is to establish any satisfactory tribunal of award.

A curious set of Italian documents has just passed into new hands at Rome. Signor Ciconetti, during the troubles of the revolutionary time, made a complete collection of the papers, squibs, satires, edicts and appeals—the whole exuberant fruits of a brief period of free literary expression. The collection was probably unique:—and there can be no doubt of its rare historical interest. Signor Ciconetti, it appears, was not unwilling to part with his treasure on fair terms, and a certain abbot was found desirous of becoming the purchaser. The price agreed for was a hundred golden doppias—about sixty-seven pounds,—and when the cheque came to be paid it was found that the real purchaser was—the Pope. Whether the collection be required for the Vatican Library, for the Pontiff’s private reading, or for the fires of the inquisition, is not known,—but it is not impossible that these satires may have been secured for a reason suggested by the recent affair with the poets of Perugia.

From Berlin it is stated, that the King has ordered that the portrait of Jacob Grimm shall be placed in the Gallery of Contemporary Celebrities created by him in the Palace of Charlottenburg,—and has commissioned with the work M. Begas, the painter of the portraits of Humboldt and Meyerbeer in the same collection.

From Christiania we hear, that a Norwegian Pantheon is about to be erected,—to receive the portraits, statues, or busts, of all the men who have illustrated Norway by their virtues or their talents. The building will be erected at Eidsvold,—a town not far from the capital, in which the representatives of Norway adopted, on the 17th of May 1814, the existing constitution. Among the earliest to be enshrined in the new temple will be, the King, St. Olau, who introduced Christianity into Norway,—Queen Margaret, surnamed the Great,—Christian the Fourth, King of Denmark and Norway, the “Henri Quatre” of the North,—Prince Christian Frederick (afterwards Christian the

Eighth), who accepted and sanctioned the constitution,—and Charles the Fourteenth (John Beradotte), the regenerator of the agriculture, commerce and industry of Norway.

**ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS, TRAFALGAR-SQUARE.**—The EXHIBITION of the ROYAL ACADEMY is NOW OPEN. Admission (from 5 o'clock till 7), 1s.; Catalogue, 1s.

JOHN PRESCOTT KNIGHT, R.A. Sec.

**BRITISH INSTITUTION, Pall Mall.**—The GALLERY with a Collection of PICTURES by ANCIENT MASTERS and deceased BRITISH ARTISTS, is OPEN daily from Ten to Six. Admission, 1s.; Catalogue, 6d. GEORGE NICOL, Secretary.

**SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.**—THE FORTY-NINTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN, at their Gallery, 5, Pall Mall East, from Nine till Dusk.—Admittance, One Shilling. Catalogue, Sixpence. GEORGE FRIPP, Secretary.

**THE NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.**—THE NINETEENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of THIS SOCIETY is NOW OPEN, at their Gallery, 23, Pall Mall, Daily, from Nine till Dusk.—Admission 1s. JAMES FAHEY, Secretary.

**GOLD NUGGETS at the GREAT GLOBE.**—A Large Collection of AUSTRALIAN GOLD, together with Rocks, Minerals, and Precious Stones of Australia, at Mr. WYLD'S LARGE MODEL of the EARTH, Leicester Square. Lectures hourly upon every subject of Geographical Science.—Open daily from 10 to 10. Children under 12 years of age and School children half-price.

**ROYAL GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION,** 14, Regent Street.—MESSRS. GRIEVE and TELBIN'S NEW DIORAMA, illustrating the ROUTE of the OCEAN MAIL (via the Cape) to INDIA and AUSTRALIA, from Sketches by Mr. J. Calvert, the Australian Geologist; Mr. Brierty, F.R.G.S., Capt. Barnett, H.E.I.C., Capt. J. V. Hall, S.R.C., and Dr. Günther, &c., is now exhibiting daily, at 3 and 8 o'clock.—Admission, 1s., 2s., 6d., and 3s.

**ZULU KAFIRS.**—Notice.—In consequence of the increasing demand for places to witness this extraordinary Troop and highly interesting Exhibition, the ST. GEORGE'S GALLERY, Hyde Park Corner, will be OPEN EVERY MORNING AND EVENING, Doors open at Eight. Stalls at Mr. Mitchell's Royal Library, 33, Old Bond Street. Descriptive Books, 6d. each, may be obtained at the Gallery.

**THE AZTECS.**—The newly-discovered race of human beings—THE AZTEC LILLY PUTIANS, from Central America, whose existence was hitherto supposed to be fabulous, have arrived in London, and will make their first appearance in public in a few days.

## SCIENTIFIC

### SOCIETIES.

**ASIATIC.**—*June 4.*—Prof. H. H. Wilson in the chair.—A letter from Col. Rawlinson, containing some further interpretations of the interesting monument of Tiglath Pileser I., was read. The additional matter received is a genealogy of the king, found near the end of the inscription, which the Colonel had not reached when he despatched his former notice of the document. In addition to the genealogical table, numerous allusions are made to the king's ancestors; and as the two earliest names in the list have not the usual designation of "king," but have merely a title designating a person of dignity, Col. Rawlinson believes that he has actually ascended beyond the institution of the monarchy. He incloses a complete list in the original character; but although he affixes provisional phonetic readings of the names, the same inherent uncertainty which has applied to all the names of native royal personages hitherto found, will not allow him to give them with any confidence. The list made by Col. Rawlinson altogether contains twenty-five names, of which the obelisk king, the contemporary of Jehu, is the fifteenth; and a computation of thirty years to a reign would carry the list up to the close of the thirteenth century B.C. We should be inclined to take away at least 150 years, considering twenty years to a reign a sufficiently liberal allowance. He expected to find a notice of the building of Nineveh, but had not yet succeeded. The capital of the empire appeared to be Kilah Shergat, to which the names of Assur, Ellasar, Tel Ani, and Resen might be applied indiscriminately. The Colonel will continue to work at his Scythic Memoir, though he has been drawn off recently by the Assyrian discoveries so constantly brought to light. He finds the Scyths beyond the Euphrates in the time of Tiglath Pileser I., and gradually further to the East at subsequent epochs; and is still undetermined whether their approach to the East was a return to their former seat, or if the whole course of their migration was in the same direction. This is a subject which promises to be of high interest in the ancient history of the world.

—A letter from Dr. Hincks, printed in the Dublin Society's 'Transactions,' was laid before the meet-

ing, containing a list of Assyrian months, cardinal points, and divisions of the Assyrian weights. It was especially interesting that the months, and their succession, were, with merely some slight graphical changes, identical with those of the last received some months ago from Col. Rawlinson, and then laid before the Society. This coincidence in discovery, by investigators so far separated, can, it was said, hardly fail to carry conviction to the most sceptical of the truth of the inductions arrived at.

—The Secretary read a paper, communicated by the East India Company, being the first portion of a memoir by A. K. Forbes, Esq., 'On the Ruins of the Ancient City of Wallabhipur, near the modern town of Wulah, a little to the north of Bhownugger, on the Gulf of Cambay.'—The paper was written in consequence of a reference to that gentleman, by the Bombay Government, of a paper written on the same subject by Dr. Nicholson. The ruins are found in, and for two koss around, the town of Wulah, buried about 15 feet deep. Numerous excavations have been and are still being made, for the sake of the brick. Some sculptures of a superior character are found,—the whole of which indicate the prevalence of the worship of Siva. Mr. Forbes doubts if the probabilities of success are sufficient to warrant the expense of extensive excavations; and upon this and other points dissent from the opinions entertained by Dr. Nicholson.—A paper 'On the Low Caste of Mangs of Kolhapoor,' by Lieut. C. Barr, was communicated by Col. Sykes. It contained some interesting information on the manners, customs and religion of that half-civilized race.—The Secretary laid before the meeting two papers by the late Mr. W. Erskine, 1st. 'A Sketch of the History of the Chaghatai Khan of Moghulistan'; of the Dissolution of the Khanship; and of the Origin and Rise of the Kirghiz-Kaizaks;—2nd. 'Historical Sketch of the Origin of the Uzbeks, and their Settlement in Mawar-ul-Nahr.' The materials of these sketches were originally collected with the purpose of supplying materials for a correct account of the earlier part of the life of the Emperor Baber,—of the previous history of the Khans of Moghulistan, his maternal ancestors—and of the Uzbeks, by whom he was expelled from his hereditary dominions. These materials were subsequently reduced into their present shape by the lamented writer, in consequence of his having observed that the conquest of Mawar-ul-Nahr by the Uzbeks, and their settlement in that country, as well as the destruction of the khanship of Moghulistan, and the settlement of the Kirghiz-Kaizaks in the territory previously occupied by the Moghuls and Kipchaks, have been imperfectly known or misunderstood by the historians of the West.

**ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE.**—*June 22.*—Sir J. Doratt, V.P., in the chair.—The following gentlemen were elected members:—Rev. Dr. Russell, E. Hailstone, Esq., M. Stephen Xenos, Rev. Erskine Rowe, Rev. Josephus Glover.—Mr. J. A. Davies read a paper 'On the Composition of the Ancient Orators, and especially that of Hyperides.' Mr. Davies stated that he had been led to notice, very early in life, that a certain rhythm was preserved in the compositions of the ancient orators, and he found his ideas completely confirmed by the results of his discoveries of MSS. at Herculaneum and Thebes. He noticed particularly several passages of Quintilian, which bore upon his subject and which indicated the existence in ancient times of special rules for composition:—the compositions themselves, as would seem from Quintilian's remarks, being in some degree limited by the size of the waxen tablets on which they were inscribed. Mr. Davies illustrated his views by copious extracts from various authors, and especially from the Herculaneum Papyri, and stated that rhythm ought to be considered as bearing the same relation to the oration which metre does to poetry.—Sir T. Phillips exhibited a collection of photographs taken from some original Mexican manuscripts in his possession.

**ROYAL INSTITUTION.**—*June 10.*—The Duke of Northumberland, President, in the chair.—MM.

Boussingault, Frémy, Bécquerel, &c. 'On Oxygen,' by Prof. Faraday.—The object of the speaker was to bring before the members, in the first place, M. Boussingault's endeavours to procure pure oxygen from the atmosphere in large quantities; so that being stored up in gasometers it might afterwards be applied to the many practical and useful purposes which suggest themselves at once, or which may hereafter be developed. The principle of the process is to heat baryta in close vessels and peroxidize it by the passage of a current of air; and afterwards by the application of the same heat, and a current of steam (with the same vessels), to evolve the extra portion of oxygen, and receive it in fitly adjusted gasometers: then the hydrated baryta so produced is dehydrated by a current of air passed over it at a somewhat higher temperature, and finally oxidized to excess by the continuance of the current and a lower temperature: and thus the process recurs again and again. The causes of failure in the progress of the investigation were described as detailed by M. Boussingault; the peculiar action of water illustrated; the reason why a mixture of baryta and lime, rather than pure baryta, should be used, was given; and the various other points in the *Mémoire* of M. Boussingault were noticed in turn. That philosopher now prepares the oxygen for his laboratory use by the baryta process.—The next subject consisted of the recent researches of MM. Frémy and E. Bécquerel 'On the Influence of the Electric Spark in converting pure dry Oxygen into Ozone.' The electric discharge from different sources produces this effect, but the high intensity spark of the electric machine is that best fitted for the purpose. When the spark contains the same electricity, its effect is proportionate to its length; for at two places of discharge in the same circuit, but with intervals of 1 and 2, the effect in producing ozone is as 1 and 2 also. A spark can act by induction; for, when it passes on the outside a glass tube containing within dry oxygen, and hermetically sealed, the oxygen is partly converted into ozone. Using tubes of oxygen which either stood over a solution of iodide of potassium either, or being hermetically sealed, contained the metal silver, the oxygen converted into ozone was absorbed; and the conversion of the whole of a given quantity of oxygen into ozone could be thus established. The effect for each spark is but small; 500,000 discharges were required to convert the oxygen in a tube about 7 inches long and 0.2 in diameter into ozone. For the details of this research, see the *'Annales de Chimie.'* 1852, xxxv. 62.—Mr. Faraday then referred briefly to the recent views of Schönbein respecting the probable existence of part of the oxygen in oxy-compounds in the ozone state. Thus of the peroxide of iron, the third oxygen is considered by him as existing in the state of ozone; and of the oxygen in pernitrous acid, half, or the two latter proportions added when the red gas if formed from oxygen and nitrous gas, are supposed to be in the same state. Hence the peculiar chemical action of these bodies; which seems not to be accounted for by the idea of a bare adhesion of the last oxygen, inasmuch as a red heat cannot separate the third oxygen from the peroxide of iron; and hence also, according to M. Schönbein, certain effects of change of colour by heat, and certain other actions connected with magnetism, &c.

**SYRO-EGYPTIAN.**—*June 14.*—S. Sharpe, Esq. in the chair.—Mr. Bonomi read 'A short Account of the Discovery of the MSS. in the possession of J. Arden, Esq.' The first fragments, of which Mr. Bonomi exhibited fac-similes, were purchased by Mr. Harris at Thebes in 1847,—the second, belonging to Mr. Arden, was subsequently purchased at or near the same place, and turned out to be the complement of the Oration of Hyperides for Lycophron,—of which Mr. Harris's manuscript was the exordium:—the last portion of the manuscripts being the Oration of Hyperides for Euxenippus. Mr. Bonomi accounted for the discovery of these manuscripts at Thebes by the supposition that an Alexandrian scribe had died there, and the usual custom of burying some implement of use or cherished ornament with the deceased having been observed in his case. The manuscripts were dis-

covered in one of the small wooden sepulchral boxes or sarcophagi so frequently found in the tombs,—and which Mr. Bonomi minutely described, illustrating the same by a picture taken from the wall of the tomb of an Egyptian land-owner, which represented a scribe showing a herdsman a papyrus, containing probably a list of the cattle intrusted to his safe keeping. In another drawing Mr. Bonomi exhibited a genuine representation of an Egyptian artist, of that class to one of whom he has attributed the possession of this volume of the *Orations of Hyperides* before it came into the hands of the present owners.—A description of the Cylinders and Seals exhibited by Dr. Lee was given by Mr. Abington.—Mr. T. Wright read a notice of some Medieval Travellers to the Holy Land. Mr. Wright pointed out how interesting these early records of travel are, when looked on as forming a long chain of evidence regarding the *reputatio quiesco* of the authenticity of the Holy Sites; all of which—even the most important one of all—have, and apparently not without reason, been the subject of doubt. Mr. Wright proceeded to illustrate his view by extracts from an ‘*Itinerarium*’ written by Christian of Bordeaux, at a period contemporary with the first building of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre by the Empress Helena. He remarked, that while we have in this and other works sufficient authority for the localities known as the Holy Sites at that remote period, the real difficulty of tracing them from the time of the Apostles to that of the Empress Helena remains the same,—and to do which we have no documentary evidence whatever. At the moment when Christianity had so far gained the ascendant that the occupation of showing the Holy Places to pilgrims had become an office of profit, instead of one subjected to persecution, it is clear that there were great inducements for invention and deception, but we have no evidence how far that invention was carried. The relations published during the Middle Ages enable us to trace the continued or varying connexions, as it may be, between the localities and the names and legends attached to them, from the age of Helena to modern times; but they are further interesting, as showing how the number of these Holy Places and the legends attached to them continually increased and were added to in the course of the ages during which we have opportunities of observing them. This itself is a sufficient reason for looking with suspicion on the statements which were first made three hundred years after the period to which they referred. There is another point of view in which these relations of medieval travellers in the East are extremely interesting. They furnish us with a continued series of accounts from personal observation of the condition of the East and its inhabitants from a very early period; and Mr. Wright expressed his surprise that no one had yet thought of exploring them as materials for a history of Palestine and Syria during the Middle Ages. Mr. Wright then proceeded to illustrate these positions by extracts from the relation of *Borchardus*, or *Burkhardt*—a Dominican monk, who visited the Holy Land in 1282 or 1283,—and from that of a later English pilgrim, Richard Guilford, a distinguished knight who flourished during the reign of Richard the Third, and whose narrative has recently been edited, by Sir H. Ellis, for the Camden Society.—Mr. Ainsworth remarked, that apart from the question of the identity of the site pointed out by Macarius to Helena as the Holy Sepulchre with the real spot, evidence was derivable from the medieval travellers of the non-identity of the present sepulchral cave with that selected for erecting a church over by the Empress. This was to be found in the relation of Bishop Arculf, who described the Cave of Macarius as being about the year 694 round, the present one being square,—as holding nine persons, while the present one can only hold five,—as being of red and white stone, the present one being gray limestone,—and as bearing due west from Calvary, whence the present cave bears north-west.—The Rev. J. Turnbull read a paper on Hebron and the Cave of Machpelah; in which, after detailing the history of the city and cave,—the name of the first of which he derived from “friend,” an epithet of

Abraham’s as “the friend of God,”—he pointed out how desirable it would be to behold how the Patriarch and his sons were laid in the house appointed for all living. Jacob’s body, it is known, was embalmed after the royal fashion in Egypt,—and it is not improbable that Hebrew inscriptions and symbols would be found in the coffin or mummy. The interest of such a discovery, as well as that of the sarcophagus of Joseph himself, can scarcely be exaggerated. Some enchorial or hieratic characters might have accompanied the Hebrew, and illustrations might be obtained both of the Egyptian and of the Hebrew characters and ideas of the period, so important in relation to modern discoveries in Assyria and Egypt. “Palestine,” the Rev. Mr. Turnbull remarked, “alone remains now to be explored as the middle link of this great archaeological chain.”

#### METINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

MON.	British Architects, 8.
	Institute of Actuaries, 7.
TUES.	Horticultural, 3.
	Zoological, 9.—Scientific.
SAT.	Asian, 2.
	Institute of Actuaries, 3.—Annual Meeting.

#### FINE ARTS

##### NEW PUBLICATIONS.

*Neville's Saxon Obituaries: illustrated by Ornaments and Weapons.*

This handsome volume will be very interesting to the archaeologist. It owes its birth to the industry and taste of the Hon. R. C. Neville,—whose excavations in a Saxon cemetery at Little Wilbraham, in Cambridgeshire, near the spot known as “Fleam’s Dyke,” have resulted in the discovery of a large and miscellaneous collection of ornaments, weapons, and domestic utensils, besides a great number of urns and skeletons. The ornaments are of various kinds:—fibulae, or brooches, clasps, armlets, bronze and silver finger rings, buckles, necklaces, and perforated coins;—so are the utensils and instruments:—consisting of hooks, pincers, adzes, tweezers, buckets, and boxes, oblong and circular,—one of the latter being the case for a comb, which was found perfect. The weapons are chiefly swords and spear-heads, and there are several bosses of shields. Some of these relics are of very singular form, but the greater part of them are sufficiently familiar to the antiquarian. They have been reproduced in Mr. Neville’s volume with the greatest accuracy, in the lithographic plates executed by Mr. Samuel Stanesby which form the staple of the work,—in itself, as Mr. Neville admits, only a simple *catalogue raisonné* of his discoveries. The modern artist will not find much in the collection to assist his own invention; but the objects themselves will attract many a curious eye,—the beads especially, many of which, ornamented with irregular patterns, are precisely similar to those still made at Murano for the Venetian peasant women. Others of these Saxon necklaces, strung at random of pretty pebbles, amber, and fluor spar, are as primitive as if they had been destined for the *trousseau* of a South Sea Islander’s bride, and exhibit the female love of finery of our ancestors under the rudest possible form. There is one noticeable fact in connexion with the cemetery in which Mr. Neville’s researches have been made,—viz. that urns and skeletons were found together: affording satisfactory evidence that the two forms of burial were for some time co-existent.

*The Lake Scenery of England.* Painted by J. B. Pyne, Esq. Lithographed by W. Gauci. Part I. This is the first instalment of a series of engravings of the Lake Scenery of England, issued by the Messrs. Agnew, of Manchester, and intended, we are told in the introduction, to form a complete collection of that which has hitherto been only partly rendered. Of Mr. Pyne’s ability to produce fine landscapes it is not now necessary that we should speak,—and in the present instance the subjects are so attractive that they at once commend themselves to the lover of the picturesque. Mr. Gauci’s freedom of drawing qualifies him also in an eminent degree for re-producing the originals in a lithographic form,—so that there is every

chance in favour of the popularity of the work. The Part before us contains, besides the title-page, a very spirited sketch of ‘Dunlop Gill Force,’ four large lithographic plates, and two well-executed woodcuts, with descriptive, though not always appropriate, text. The first view is, ‘Skiddaw,’ seen from the south. Prepared to express our opinion of its artistic merits, we found ourselves anticipated by the author of the text, who says:—“the play of light is skilfully depicted, and the contrast of colour is no less true than striking.” We have no fault to find with this description, so far as it goes; but we must protest against its insertion in the body of a work destined for general examination and critical comment. Let this pass, however; and let us add, that the general breadth of treatment and vigour of handling render Mr. Pyne’s ‘View of Skiddaw’ a remarkable production. Of the “contrast of colour” there is a striking example in the dark trees which fill the foreground and the snow-covered heights of the distant mountain. We are told in the text, that “the smooth slopes of the slatey rocks are shown with their winter covering of snow.” Their “winter covering,” no doubt,—but surely worn in the height of the summer season; for at no other time of the year could such a profusion of foliage exist. The second plate is, ‘Ennerdale Lake.’ This is a magnificent scene,—having for its chief attraction the lofty ‘Pillar,’ nearly 3,000 feet high, which forms so conspicuous a feature of the Ennerdale crags. ‘Windermere Water-head’ is too well known for description. The point of view is well selected for displaying some of its finest qualities. ‘Rydal Water’ is the last of the series,—and is inferior in merit to none of its companions.

*Views on the Rhine.* Painted by Mr. W. Turner, R.A. Engraved by R. Brandard.

We have here two engravings after pictures painted in Turner’s broadest and most natural manner. One of these is, ‘Ostersperg and Feltzen,’—the other, ‘Neuwied and Weissenburg.’ In the former, a magnificent rainbow spans the storm-surrounded valley, in which peasants are hastening homewards and boatmen toiling to secure their craft. The effect of colour is well represented in the engraving,—particularly at that point where the rainbow tints are brightest. In the latter a calm, clear day-light is spread over the whole scene, revealing the most distant as well as the nearest points of the landscape. Fidelity to nature and to the actual locality enhances and seals the other merits of the work.

*Allatia.* Painted by H. Barraud. Engraved by S. W. Reynolds.

This is the well-known print of the three choristers. It is very well executed,—but a singing picture is not to our taste. We never can find in such subjects the repose which is so essential to our enjoyment of works of this class.

##### SALE OF MR. WOODBURN’S PICTURES.

AMONG the important picture sales of the season must be numbered that of the late Mr. S. Woodburn’s collection,—which began to pass “under the hammer” at Messrs. Christie & Manson’s yesterday. Rarely has a case existed in which a catalogue explicit in the particularity of anecdote would have been so acceptable. The announcement of three specimens by Raphael— one by Buonarotti—still more of several by that rare master, Leonardo da Vinci—is naturally calculated to quicken desire for the fullest authentication; since the best of connoisseurs could hardly find the most minute legal proof superfluous. The ‘Christ bearing a Cross’ by Da Vinci—the ‘St. John’ by Raphael—will make every lover of Art pause, be his faith ever so large, ever so little. The former, if not, indeed, a work from the master’s own hand, is a first-class picture of his school. The faded tints and sunken shadows, in his case universal, and which even in his *Mona Lisa* call for a lively exercise of revivifying faith, will be felt a minor drawback in a subject to which the pallor of sorrow and of death rightly belongs. Our critical “if” is aroused by some timidity in the anatomical modelling. The head of the Christ is full of grief, compassion, and tenderness without super-sweetness. The drapery is too curious, perhaps, in its foldings,

—yet not so finical as to disturb the sentiment of the figure.—Mr. Woodburn's *Francias* are not among the happier specimens of a master who, with all his spirituality, painted with curious inequality of hand,—who was sometimes as timid as the most formal among the missal-formalists,—sometimes as grand as if he were competent to overspread the dome of the Florentine cathedral or of St. Peter's at Rome. Neither does the Perugino, 'The Virgin in Adoration,' appear to us a first-class Perugino.—On the other hand, the small 'Adoration of the Shepherds,' by Garofalo, fairly represents that quaint and earnest master.

'The Adoration of the Virgin,' by Giorgione is a noticeable specimen ascribed to a hand whose works we English have too few opportunities of studying. This large oblong picture is oddly—not to say awkwardly—composed: it would almost appear with an afterthought, since the kneeling Venetian general, in steel and chain armour, as a costume figure, when considered together with the Madonna and Child, has small right to the central prominence given to him. The Holy Mother has much of the old Venetian spirituality (of which, perhaps, Gian Bellini gave us the highest expression) in her attitude and features. The colour is of the richest Venetian tone, and by majesty of treatment—not, however, excluding a Dürer-esque angularity of fold in some of the robes—a certain poetical grandeur is given to such mundane matters as drapery, armour, and other accessories, which we are not cynical enough to despise.—The Venetians are otherwise nobly represented in this collection by two of Tintoretto's grand portraits. The one is a crimson robed Venetian Senator, as grand in air as the three kneeling patricians by the same painter in the great gallery picture at Berlin,—the other is, a portrait of 'Count Giovanni Angusciole, of Como,'—a nobleman, also, every inch of him—and painted by one of the noblest hands that fiery spirit and boundlessly affluent imagination ever guided. The day of raving in praise of Tintoretto's power, earnestness and prodigal fancy may be yet to come,—when the apotheosis of hard and homely quaintness shall be over.

We are not attempting a criticism on this gallery,—and can but mention the specimens by Lorenzo di Credi, Perino del Vaga, and Andrea del Sarto, which it contains. There is a 'Marriage of St. Catherine' by N. Poussin, which must not be overlooked—as one of the most agreeable sacred pictures by a master whose real force lay among the satyrs and sylvan boys of 'Arcadia,' and not among the 'martyred maids and bishops hoary' of Roman Catholicism.

Among the Flemish works, a fine specimen or two by Cuyp (one, a 'Nativity,' brilliant in its effect of light, and not unpoetical in design) a great Vandyck, 'The Return of the Holy Family from Egypt,'—a capital landscape by Adrian Van der Velde, a pretty, yet forcible, portrait of a child by Rubens, and two life-size portraits by Van der Helst (no fair specimens, however, of that admirable realist in portraiture) claim mention, as illustrating the variety of Mr. Woodburn's taste.—Were further proof wanted, we could point to the grand Murillo, 'The Immaculate Conception,'—leaving its designation in the Catalogue, as 'the finest in England,' for others to accredit or to deny:—and lastly, to the freshly-painted and coarsely satirical 'Modern Midnight Conversation,' of Hogarth.

#### MR. LANCE'S RESTORATION OF VELASQUEZ.

A few years ago Mr. Lance, the eminent fruit painter, was "instructed by the Keeper of the National Gallery to restore the 'Boar Hunt' by Velasquez." Mr. Lance (before a Committee of the House of Commons) thus described the injuries in the picture of the 'Boar Hunt' which he was commissioned to repair. "One portion on the right hand—as large as a sheet of foolscap—of the picture was entirely bare. In fact, more than half the picture had to be restored." Witness "had not seen the picture before it was damaged,"—nor had he had "any plate to aid him in his restoration." The manner in which Mr. Lance tendered

his evidence elicited great merriment; but from the facts disclosed there does not appear to be much to laugh at. Seriously, the only course left to the authorities with respect to the 'Boar Hunt' is, to have it re-restored to the condition in which it was when Mr. Lance spread his palette with the laudable object of rendering the Spanish master into English colours.

It is an unaccountable error to set aside as worthless the fragment of a noble picture like the 'Boar Hunt,' and surely repainting such a work is scarcely more to be preferred than its destruction. We justly attach great importance to mutilated statues—we do not discard an imperfect frieze; and there is no reason why fragmentary examples of the pencil should not be valued in a corresponding degree. It must be evident that the attempt to restore a picture half effaced ought never to have been made. Picture restoration has its limits, and beyond a certain point it cannot be defended. An illustration (which the writer has elsewhere employed) may serve to explain the limits of picture repairs.—"If a Venus stood complete in every limb, in good preservation throughout, with the exception that some unfortunate blow had struck out one eye, in consequence of which one blemish the whole statue was affected, and its influence half destroyed, what objection would there be, could some modeller replace the absent member so cleverly that all traces of the injury should disappear, and the figure again possess its full and complete effect? Surely no one could object to such a course being taken? But because the eye could be replaced (the other remaining to test its accuracy), it by no means follows that if the nose were lost that feature could be replaced with equal felicity; for although men of taste might venture a shrewd guess as to the kind of nose the face once possessed, and sculptors might realize their conception, yet for all that there would be wanting the proof by comparison present in the case of the eye; and where doubt commences interference with the original work should cease, in deference to the original artist. However well founded a conjecture might seem, it were far better to rest with the mutilated form than to risk an absolutely supposititious addition to the fragment." To apply this to the picture of the 'Boar Hunt':—Mr. Lance admits that he had no engraving to aid him in his restoration of the said picture,—nor, indeed, had he more than the merest conjecture of the appearance of the picture before it had become injured. Hence he overstepped the defensible limits of restoration, and chance usurped the place of law.

Damaged pictures may in skilful and judicious hands be benefited in many ways. It happens frequently that pictures are rendered unsightly by a multitude of worm-holes or cracks. Such blemishes can be repaired without involving the design or even the texture. The holes and cracks may be stopped and tinted so as to mingle them with the surrounding parts. No uncertainty exists in the prosecution of minute repairs of this kind;—but it becomes quite another matter when portions (of the dimensions of a sheet of foolscap) have been erased. In such extreme cases the safe rule is, not to exceed such mechanical appliances as refer simply to the preservation of the fragment, as a fragment. The restorer might venture to tint in the damaged portions matching the original ground colour; thus leaving blanks, as if the master had desisted from his work, deferring certain portions to be completed on a future occasion.—I am, &c.

HENRY MERRITT.

1, Woburn Buildings, Tavistock Square.

FINE-ART GOSSIP.—Messrs. Grieve & Telbin have re-opened their *Gallery of Illustration* with an *Ocean Mail*, to match the *Overland Mail* that so successfully preceded the triumphant Wellington Exhibition. This time, we start from Plymouth,—touch at Madeira, St. Helena, the Cape, Ceylon,—and light down in England's *El Dorado*. The choice of subject is well timed; and for the execution of the separate pictures the names of the artists are good warrant. There is no lack, moreover, of those scenic effects which are all but sun-set, moon-rise, the clearing off of storms,

and the ebb and flow of waves upon the shore. During one part of the voyage, the steamer is almost a real steamer. In all these devices, however, nice taste has refined away such coarseness as would attach itself to too literal a simulation when employed conjointly with pictorial Art. It will surprise us, should this new Exhibition fail to become popular.

On Monday last, Mr. Windus of Tottenham, at whose cottage Turner is said to be on his throne, tried to what height the Turner mania might be expected to run by putting up to auction at Messrs. Christie & Manson's his five large pictures by that artist, considered by some (not by us) the pearls of the collection on Tottenham Green. We call them his *large* Turners, because they are large in comparison with the rest of his collection,—though in reality small pictures in point of size when compared with the canvases generally used by Mr. Turner. The prices justified the trial, and showed that Mr. Windus was a good judge of the follies of the rich and wise; for five really third-rate Turners—of moderate dimensions withal, and of his latest and worst period—produced the sum of 3,350 guineas. Thus, 'Venus—Evening' brought 520 guineas,—"Venus—Morning," 610 guineas,—"The Dawn of Christianity," 710 guineas,—"Glaucus and Scylla," 700 guineas,—"The Approach to Venice," 810 guineas. When viewed near, or at five feet off, these pictures look like the eccentricities of genius—the dim perpetrations of a once unerring hand and eye now alive only to fancied effects in nature; when viewed at a distance they attract and rivet attention by the general harmony of their treatment, the dream-like beauty of their conception, and—what we fail to find as they are approached—the apparent care and fidelity of their execution. They are as visionary as any of Blake's conceptions, and as untrue to nature as Fuseli in his wildest mood.—An incident at the sale may illustrate our meaning. The first two lots were the 'Evening,' and the 'Morning.' 'Evening' should have been offered first; but it turned out on inquiry that Messrs. Christie & Manson's men (not dull critics by any means on pictures) had put up the 'Morning' as the first lot. They had (despite Mr. Ruskin's labours) confounded 'Morning' with 'Evening'—had committed the same mistake with others in the room, of being really unable to distinguish which was 'Morning' and which 'Evening' in these unintelligible versions.

There has been only one English Pope,—and of him there has hitherto been no public monument in the city over which he ruled. The omission is now, it seems, to be rectified. A Committee has been formed with a view to collect subscriptions,—Pio Nono has given his blessing,—Cardinal Altieri his countenance,—and Cardinal Wiseman has received instructions to collect the money in this country. Report speaks highly of the model prepared by the sculptor, Signor Gajassi, and now publicly exhibited in Rome. The sum named for the monument is, 6,000/—. The proposal to erect at this time a tribute to the memory of the sturdy Nicholas Breakspeare, emanating as it does from the bosom of the Church party, is significant enough. The age of Adrian IV. was in some respects like our own. The Church had its Mazzini in Arnoldo,—and the Pope had been forced to fly from Rome. But the vigorous Englishman soon set the Papal power on its feet again. He burned the reformed,—humbled the citizens,—and carried his point against the Emperor Barbarossa himself. After the lapse of seven centuries he is to have his reward:—a magnificent memorial is to be erected to him in St. Peter's. The attempt to elicit such a declaration from England at such a time is a clever trick enough; and in order to its success, one of the grounds of appeal to the pockets of Englishmen shows a profound knowledge of the weak side of our national character. Wherever John Bull wanders it has been observed that he carries with him a passion for recording his autograph. The Browns and Smiths and Jones's write their names on Parthenon and Pyramid, temple and tomb. The Cardinals have had the wit to make a direct appeal to this passion:—they offer to inscribe the name of every donor of 60/- which they are

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willing to receive in monthly instalments of twenty shillings—on the base of the monument of Pope Nicholas Breakspeare! Immortality made easy:—the price being taken in monthly instalments! A seat under the Pope's toe for John Brown, for 60., paid at convenience! An eternal record in the City of the Seven Hills for little more than the price of a common tombstone, payable monthly! Verily, these Cardinals know John Brown, and will get their monument,—unless John Brown can be made to see how his weakness is here played with. Let him spurn the fame sold by Rome for money, like her Indulgences,—appeal from the Pope to the Pyramid,—and go down to posterity with Cheops instead of Nicholas Breakspeare.

#### MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

MUSICAL UNION.—DIRECTOR'S MATINÉE.—TUESDAY, June 23, at Three o'clock. Quartett, No. 1, in G. Mozart; Duet à Quatre Mains, Pianoforte, Mdle. Staudach (from Vienna) and Herr Blumenthal; Septett in E flat, Beethoven. Solos, Pianoforte, Mdle. Staudach; Solo, Contra-Basso, Bottesini; Executants: — Vieuxtemps, Goffrè, Blaurov, Piatti, Bottesini, Velluti, and others. Tickets, 1s. 6d. and 1s. At the Concert, the Infant Prodigy, Arthur Napoleon, will perform Dohler's Notturmo, &c., on the Pianoforte.—Members will greatly facilitate ingress by providing Tickets for their friends. Programmes and Tickets to be had of Cramer & Co., Regent Street; Chappell & Oliver, Strand; and from admissions for the Matinée. Doors open at half-past Two, and the Performance to commence half-an-hour earlier than usual.

J. ELLA, Director.

GERMAN PLAYS, ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Mr. Mitchell officially announces that a SECOND SEASON OF GERMAN PLAYS will be commenced at this Theatre, on MONDAY, July 4, at 7.30 p.m. The principal engagements will be those made with the following prominent Artists:—Herr Emil Dietrich, from Dresden; Herr Desor, from Berlin; Herr Gabillon, from Hanover; Herr Frey, from Cologne; Fraulein Fuhr, from Berlin; Frau Stolte, from Cassel; Frau Steck, from Bremen; Herr Lederer, from Leipzig; Herr Thomas, Berlin; and complete company, consisting of 54 persons. Réguiseurs:—Herrn Fischer and Birnstilli, from the Ducal Theatre, Darmstadt. The principal productions this season will consist of William Tell, Bride of Messina, Donna Diana, Fiesco, Torquato Tasso, Orlando, and Tancredi; The Sheriff, by Schiller; and the popular plays of last season, Rosamunde, and Hamlet. The performances will be given on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, during the month of July. A Subscription for the series, or for one or two nights a week, may be arranged, at Mr. Mitchell's Library, 23, Old Bond Street.

#### NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, arranged for Two Pianofortes.—[*Beethoven's Neunte Sinfonie, Op. 125, für Zwei Pianoforte gelegt.*] By F. Liszt.—Among all musicians, dead and living, Dr. Liszt deserves commendation for the chivalrousness of his enterprises. We do not merely allude to his devoted and enthusiastic championship of Herr Wagner,—but refer to past and present efforts in musical publication. It was he who did his strange part in familiarizing the public with the symphonic music of M. Berlioz, at a period when that was scarcely talked about, even in Paris, by "transcribing" (as the phrase runs) for the pianoforte the Fantastic Symphony,—putting forth his transcript with as much good faith as if any person besides himself could perform it. The effort before us belongs to a ripe period of experience,—and is in every respect more practicable in its conditions. Yet, "chivalrous" is the epithet claimed by the wonderful piece of translation before us. We can hardly fancy the Ninth Symphony thus rendered being sought for the purposes of public performance. The *allegro* and slow movement, it is true, "come out" effectively,—that from the fire—this from the sweetness—of its subject. But the *scherzo* must in such a version be injured beyond even a Liszt's powers of rescue, owing to the absence of instrumental contrasts,—while the sublime, crude, chaotic, disproportionate choral *finale* would say little to those who had not the work by heart or the score in the hand. When the arranger is, at best, from the nature of the matter selected, a remembrancer merely, his labour becomes "chivalrous":—in other words, a display of individual ambition and reverence, put forth without regard for the reception to be expected when the task is done.

This stated, we are bound emphatically to add, that the genius, power, and good sense of this arrangement appear to us almost unique. A comparison of Beethoven's full orchestral score with Dr. Liszt's will raise the latter in every musician's estimation,—since it is difficult to conceive how the arduous task could have been more equally and effectively distributed betwixt the

two instruments. Easy, of course, no such version could be; but there is no pragmatical parade of difficulty here,—nothing which may not be demanded of every first-class pianist without unreasonable exactation. The novelties introduced of late years into the treatment of the instrument are legitimately, but not profusely, employed. In short, this is a masterpiece of arrangement. It is wisely issued by its publishers in score,—by which a large amount of tension and attention is saved to the players.

CONCERTS OF THE WEEK.—*The Orchestral Union* would appear to have already established itself in public favour, to judge from the crowd which attended its third and last concert. Nor is this a wonder. The programmes of its concerts have been wisely brief and nicely selected. The execution of its band, under Mr. Mellon's presidency, is precision itself; and not without that apparent enjoyment, till lately so rare among English instrumentalists, which gives life and flavour to good German orchestras. This day week Mr. W. S. Bennett was the solo performer. He was rapturously received, and beautifully accompanied in his *Concerto* in F minor:—but we never heard him less clear in his passages, less marked in his rhythm, than on this occasion. Were he twenty times the composer that he is, he must not "do what he likes with his own." If he will lounge through so well written a *Concerto* as the one in question, in place of rendering it with spirit, force, and precision, he must abide the same animadversion as overtakes a damager of other men's music.—The vocalists were, Mr. and Mrs. Lockey (late Miss Williams), and Mrs. Endersohn. In the air from Haydn's 'Seasons,' the last Lady did her utmost to efface the impression made by her singing at the Philharmonic Concert,—and to some extent succeeded. Let her take heed, however, of too indiscriminately attempting dramatic enthusiasm when the price paid is to be that of finish. The song in question sung by her is one of contemplation, not of excitement.

Herr Jansa's Concert, on Monday last, exhibited an estimable professor—who, like Mdle. Zerr, is said to have been expelled from his appointments at Vienna, because of his Hungarian sympathies—in the double light of solo violin player and composer. Such being the rumour, and Herr Jansa's musical merit not being small, we are glad to record that his Concert was so handsomely attended. The entertainment was distinctively German. Fraulein Agnes Büry sang one of the *altissimo bravruras* from 'Die Zauberflöte,'—and with more power of voice than is usually thrown into *altissimo* execution (too frequently a mere trick). Herr Theodor Formes, a tenor brother of the *basso profondo* at the Royal Italian Opera, made his *début* in an air from Gluck's 'Iphigénie en Tauride,' with more force than method. But where is the charm among these German vocalists? We ask in recollection of the florid air by Handel, violently sung, with English words, by Herr Reichardt.—Herr Fischek, too, lent his aid to Herr Jansa; whose programme was further enriched by the names of Mdle. Clauss and Miss Huddart.

M. Benedict remains true to his taste for monster programmes, in spite of removing his concert from the Opera House to the Hanover Rooms. Thirty-one pieces were on the list for Wednesday week, and some among these were what might be truly called (were literal translation admissible) pieces of resistance. Amongst others may be noticed the triple *Concerto* of Bach as arranged and scored by Moschels; which was very finely performed by Miss Arabella Goddard, M. Benedict, and Herr Ferdinand Hiller. The latter gentleman deserves especial mention for his extemporaneous *cadenza*, which after the required style was admirable. Then MM. Sainton and Vieuxtemps gave a Duett by Spohr for violin and viola, M. Vieuxtemps taking the latter instrument:—Signori Piatti and Bottesini were also to exhibit their gambols in union. As for the singers, we cannot profess even to name them all. Among them, however, must be specified Mr. and Mrs. Sims Reeves, with regret that the lady is so rarely heard—Signor Guglielmi, whose voice made a favourable impression on the public—Herr Reich-

ardt, who introduced a delicious air from Mozart's 'Entführung'—Signor and Madame Marchesi, who gave with great point and finish one of Handel's Chamber Duets, cleverly scored by Herr Hiller—Fraulein Agnes Büry, and Madame Viardot. Mr. Balfe's brilliant "scherzo" with vocal accompaniment, written for the last lady in Russia, (on Wednesday *encore*) is one of those pieces of daring and buoyant execution of which she has undisturbed monopoly. A selection of music from M. Benedict's MS. Opera, 'The Minnesinger,' was also performed. The Overture is among the prettiest of light concert overtures. Here are notes enough, it will be said,—yet not a quarter of the features of the Concert are touched on in the above.

In addition to the Concerts reported on, an entertainment was given this day week by Herr Leo Kerbusch.—On Monday last, the everlasting 'Messiah' was performed, at Exeter Hall, for the benefit of the Choral Fund, under the direction of Sir H. R. Bishop. We are sorry to perceive, that the attendance was not satisfactory. The wisdom of giving such an entertainment at the busiest moment of the season, when the world is beginning to weary of music, may be doubted.—The Quartett Association held its last meeting on Thursday. At this were performed Spohr's 'Nonett' in F major:—also a new *Sonata* for pianoforte and violin, by M. Benedict,—too clever and effective not to be repeated,—to be spoken of on some future day.—This new Association appears to flourish.—The London Sacred Harmonic Society was to perform 'The Creation' this week, in aid of the Hospital for Consumption.—The Sacred Harmonic Society closed its performances for the season last evening. The Oratorio was 'Elijah'; to which new interest was imparted by the engagement of Madame Viardot,—who was to sing some of the *contralto* music, in which she has made so deep an impression at the provincial festivals, for the first time in London.—The gentlemen from Cologne have gone home to the Rhine-land; their success in England having surpassed expectation. One of their last appearances was at Her Majesty's Concert, on Monday evening.—They also sang, before their departure, in aid of the funds for the German Hospital at Dalston.—On Tuesday evening, Miss Edwards gave her concert:—Besides the above, a third Scottish Entertainment by Miss Rainforth—Concerts by Mdle. Gabrielle Delamotte, Mdle. Coulon, Miss M. Smith, Herr Hildebrand Romberg,—and the opening of Messrs. Macfarlane & Cunningham's Budget—have been among the events of the week.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.—'Maria di Rohan' was given on Saturday last for the introduction of Madame Medori. Of this Lady's magnificent voice we had heard much. The reality proves equal to the report. An ampler, even register than hers, of legitimate *soprano* compass and quality—neither manufactured, nor managed, nor forced, and under fair, if not full, command—does not occur to us. Whether the delivery of this voice be always unimpeachable—whether when she is in search of passion, Madame Medori is not liable to extravagance—are matters to be discussed on some future day and with regard to some future part. Her execution is of the ambitious modern school, rather than belonging to the highly-finished art of the past generation. Her acting, which shows tragic intentions, is more satisfactory than that of any predecessor in the character. She was most warmly greeted as unquestionably the best *Maria* that has till now been seen and heard in England. For all this, London cannot be made to care for the opera—in spite of the admirable performance of Ronconi in its last act—and in spite of the work containing, among other agreeable music, the most effective little part for a *contralto* written by Donizetti. It is said, that Madame Medori is next to sing in 'Fidelio':—for which character, indeed, her voice is eminently fitted.—It is further rumoured, that an engagement has been offered to Mdle. Albani—who has returned from America, and is now in Paris—to sing for a few nights in 'Le Prophète.' Mr. Gye's offer seems to have been declined, since Madame Tedesco is announced

to appear as *Fides* on Friday next, to the *Jean de Signor Tamberlik.*

**ADELPHI.**—The *drame* (a word which we have before interpreted for our readers) of 'Le Chevalier de la Maison Rouge,' by M. Dumas, has been rendered for the English stage by Mr. Bourcicault, as a "true Adelphi piece," under the title of 'Généviève, or the Reign of Terror.' In placing it on the boards, the management have been solicitous to provide it with a happy catastrophe and a pair of comic characters for Mr. and Mrs. Keeley, —a little baker, converted by the "Republic, one and indivisible" into a drummer, and his free and easy spouse, who refuses to betray any man who has once kissed her. The *mise en scène* and scenery have been specially attended to. The latter has been beautifully painted, and is very various in character;—the former consists of numerous groups of republicans, in states of insurrection, or crowding the tribunals of justice, or gathered into the interiors of prisons, or present at the conflagration of chateaux, and in other striking situations. The story which serves as the vehicle for all these salient points and effective combinations is, as perhaps it ought to be, intensely French. The chief distress arises out of the love of a young enthusiastic man for a wedded woman, who, of course, has an unworthy husband. The latter is most justly—also of course—run through the body by a friend of the lover, in order that the lady may indulge her new attachment "without fear and without remorse." Madame Celeste is this model lady—the heroine, *Généviève*, the wife of *M. Dixmer* (Mr. Wigan). The amorous gentleman, one *Maurice Lindsay*, is agreeably impersonated by Mr. Leigh Murray;—while the very convenient and self-devoted friend (*Lorin*, a Girondist) has Mr. Webster for his representative. Thus aided, it is no wonder that the action proceeds swimmingly; and in the whirl of excitement, the moral relations of the parties are overlooked by an audience delighted to be freed for three hours from the thralldom of ordinary convention. Maurice, having rescued the lady from some sans-culottes, follows her home, and becomes consequently involved in a plot to liberate Marie Antoinette, from the penalties of which he is with difficulty redeemed by Lorin. This indefatigable friend first procures a pass to enable him to emigrate to England with the persecuted *Généviève*; which design is, however, frustrated by Dixmer, who compels the suffering wife to victimize herself for the queen, and accompanies her to the prison in order that by taking her Majesty's place she may facilitate the escape of the latter. This scene, we may mention, was admirably played by Mr. Wigan. The cool sarcasm with which he imposes this sacrifice was skillfully assumed. The drummer's wife, however, has overheard the plot, and gets up an insurrection by which it is defeated. *Généviève* is produced before the revolutionary tribunal, and doomed; while Dixmer skulks among the crowd, a witness of the terrible scene,—not without, however, a project for her deliverance. He follows the gaoler to a secluded spot,—and threatens to murder him and throw his body into the Seine unless he will give him two orders, for egress, and ingress into her prison. The man, being unarmed, is forced to comply. But Dixmer has reckoned without his host. Lorin is on his track, intent on getting these same tickets,—and forces him into a duel, serving him exactly as he would have served the gaoler. While engaged in combat, Lorin amuses himself with taunting Dixmer by means of a "long yarn" descriptive of the happiness destined for his widow with Maurice. He has "carte and tierce" at his fingers' ends,—and slays his opponent sportively. With two such actors as Mr. Webster and Mr. Wigan, this scene was, of course, capitally well performed. Poor Lorin! Having visited the prison, and all but effected *Généviève's* liberation, Maurice is brought in as one condemned; and thus a need arises for a *third ticket*, in order to insure the safety of the lover. Lorin generously pretends that he *has* three tickets; but that he must remain awhile, in order to prevent suspicion. The consequence is, that he has to mount the cart of execution on its way to the guillotine. And

thus Dumas leaves the story. Mr. Bourcicault calls again in the aid of the baker's wife, who raises the mob in favour of the intended victims. *A propos*, too, a counter-revolution commences—the Reign of Terror is declared to be at an end—Robespierre has fallen—and Lorin is saved. The multitude throng the streets,—the friend, the lover and the mistress are grouped in front of the stage,—and the curtain falls to "immense applause."

**HAYMARKET.**—Mr. Buckstone has produced another new piece of an occasional character. Taking advantage of the mania in favour of Table-turning and Table-talking, he has, in imitation of the Parisian stage, adapted the theme to the Haymarket boards. Mysterious knockings are caused by a lodger (Mr. Buckstone), as means for inducing his landlady to forgive him his rent, and desire his continued residence; when it so happens that the apartments are engaged by a real American medium (Mrs. Fitzwilliam), whose proceedings create consternation among all parties. Mock-sublime expositions are given of the theory of "Rappings and Table-moving,"—(which terms we may here state compose the title of the farce);—but they fail to satisfy a sceptic (Mr. Rogers), who pronounces, on the authority of a scientific man, the whole thing to be "humbug." To his surprise and evident terror, however, two tables, thereon, begin to move—and that with great rapidity. The miracle soon receives explanation. A sheriff's officer has entered,—and Mr. Buckstone and one of the guests have retreated beneath the tables, and whirl them on their backs about the room. The whole affair is a trifling,—but it is very lively in its dialogue. The wit, such as it is, consists mainly in the spiritual responses, which have reference to the events of the day. Thus, the ghost of Julius Caesar reports, that "many of the troops at Chobham will probably catch the rheumatism,"—and other similar platitudes, needing, it should seem, no visitant from the grave for their announcement, succeeded in repeatedly stimulating the audience to excessive merriment. The curtain fell to applause.

**MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC Gossip.**—The singers already engaged for the Gloucester Festival are said to be Mesdames Castellan and Novello, Mrs. Lockey and Mrs. Weiss, Herr Formes, M. Tagliafico, and Messrs. Lockey and Weiss. The time is, September.

Dr. Spohr has arrived to conduct two concerts for the New Philharmonic Society, — and, we suppose, to superintend the production of his 'Jessonda' at the Royal Italian Opera.

Among the past events of the week to which we can afford only a line, is the appearance of Madame Rachel in 'Louise de Lignerolles.'

Mr. Gye seems desirous of treading in Mr. Lumley's footsteps by aspiring to the management of more theatres than one,—if Rumour speaks the truth. Not content with having treated for— and some still say having secured—*Her Majesty's Theatre*,—he is now said to be looking after the lesseeship of that desolate place, the Italian Opera in Paris. Nay, more, a grand combination is talked of, which would establish him also as manager of the Académie in the stead of M. Roqueplan—whose latter reign is understood not to have been prosperous. One-half of these reports, we apprehend, are not true:—if the other moiety be fulfilled, there is only one result to be prophesied.

Sigñor Filippo Galli—who after singing for eight years as tenor subsided into a *basso*, and was the original representative of characters in Rossini's best operas—is dead. He was born in 1783, at Rome; and during the latter years of his life had held an appointment as Professor in the Conservatoire of Paris.

Letters from Paris, confirming the reports of

the journals, state that M. Gounod's new Mass, for unaccompanied voices, mentioned some fortnight ago, has been performed at the Church of St. Germain l'Auxerrois, and is a very beautiful work. We hear, too, that besides his new opera which is in progress, a court *Cantata* has been commissioned from him.

The new opera by MM. Scribe, Saint-Georges, and Halévy, entitled 'Nabab,' is to be produced at the *Opéra Comique* of Paris on the re-opening of that theatre after a fortnight's summer recess.

A correspondent of the *Journal des Débats* writes from Vienna to the effect, that M. Thalberg has just become the purchaser of a notable and extensive collection of autograph manuscripts by the great composers. This, we presume, may be the library of Herr Alois Fuchs, mentioned *ante*, p. 507.—While we are on the subject of musical transfers, it may be stated that the score of Haydn's 'Armide,' adverted to when the Falmouth sale was spoken of, has passed into the possession of Mr. R. Bowley. M. Jules Janin has rarely been in a louder fit of outraged virtue than in his diatribe against the new drama founded on M. de Balzac's novel 'Le Lys dans la Vallée'—just played at the *Théâtre Français*. "There is a form," we know, in these things; but really the theatre that has opened its doors to 'Lady Tartuffe' can no longer take its stand on Academical daintiness of expression, or prudence in the presentation of immorality. It is curious to observe, that at this very moment M. Janin receives "a fillip" in his own person, as a writer of mischievous tales that had better not be acted, in reference to a recent production at the "Gaité" of another theatrical monstrosity by the dramatist of 'Le Lys,' based on M. Janin's own early novel 'L'Ane Mort.'

#### MISCELLANEA

**Weights and Measures.**—The following remarks are submitted to us in reference to a paper read before the Society of Arts on the 23rd of February last, and reported in the *Athenæum* of three days' later date. — I wish [says the writer,] to mention, that the paper was of a very unpretending character, and was prepared by me in the spring of 1852 with the intention of being read before a very small association of gentlemen in this place. In the autumn of the same year, I perceived that the Society of Arts had formed a Colonial Committee, one of whose objects, as stated in an inclosure sent through the Colonial Office to the Lieut.-Governor of New Brunswick, is,—"To make a comparison of coins, weights and measures, as used in the Colonies, and to receive and discuss propositions for giving them uniformity." Having, therefore, the paper lying by me, I forwarded it, just as it was,—thinking that one part of it might furnish some such information as was desired; but not at all supposing that it would be deemed worth reading before a formal meeting of such a body as the Society of Arts. I beg, however, to call your attention to a point which I regard as somewhat important and deserving of further consideration; namely, the way in which I proposed to reduce our confused, perplexing, and incongruous tables of weights to one which would, nevertheless, include all the most essential denominations in each, and moreover be framed in a great measure according to the decimal scale. In Troy weight it is necessary to preserve the *grain*, or some simple multiple or sub-multiple of it. The other denominations are much less frequently used, and can all be readily reduced to grains when needed. In Avordupois weight the pound cannot be dispensed with; and although the ounce is employed to a considerable extent in the retail trade, yet it is desirable on several accounts to abolish it; and to accomplish this would, I conceive, be neither very difficult nor hazardous.—The following is the Decimal scale suggested:—

Grains.	Milles.	Cent'oz.	Oze.	Pound.	Stone.
5 =	10 =	1	Secoze.	1	
50 =	100 =	10 =		14 =	1
500 =	1000 =	100 =	10 =	14 =	1
7000 =	14000 =	1400 =	140 =	160 =	1
98000 =	196000 =	19600 =	1960 =	1960 =	1
980000 =	1960000 =	196000 =	19600 =	19600 =	1
9800000 =	19600000 =	1960000 =	196000 =	196000 =	1
98000000 =	196000000 =	19600000 =	1960000 =	1960000 =	1

In the table of long measure I have ventured to propose the *foot* instead of the *yard*, as recommended by the Commissioners in their Report of 1841, for the basis from which to proceed decimal,—inasmuch as a decimal multiple and submultiple of the former are in common use, more especially among engineers. In this colony the measures of capacity are in a most unsatisfactory state; but a Bill for regulating all weights and measures has been proposed for the consideration of the Provincial Legislature during their present session, and I think it will receive their sanction. My own prepossessions are strongly in favour of adopting the Imperial measures; but I am obliged, reluctantly, to confess that it would be injudicious to attempt their introduction here, principally for the following reasons:—1. Because the old measures are retained in all the British colonies in North America, and in the West Indies, as also in the neighbouring States of the Union.—2. Because all the liquid measures now in universal use throughout the colony would have to be replaced by the Imperial, at no inconsiderable expense; and many old customs and habits would consequently be interfered with.—The needless and mischievous distinction between liquid and dry capacity will be rendered less objectionable by a clause in the Bill, which orders that all grains, roots, &c., here-tofore sold by stricken or heaped measure shall henceforth be sold by weight, and that so many pounds of such articles, specially named, shall be deemed and taken to be a bushel.—In this out-of-the-way corner of the world the *Athenæum* has, for many years, been a solace to me, as one of the means of keeping up my connexion and acquaintance with the great world without.—I am, &c.

W. B. JACK.

King's College, Fredericton, New Brunswick.

*Ocean Postage.*—Mr. Elihu Burritt, writing to us on the proposed Ocean Penny Post system,—and contrasting the simple scheme with that adopted by our Government with regard to our Colonial empire,—says: “These two propositions are not in direct opposition to each other. The first absorbs the second. The one regarding the surrounding sea uniting Great Britain equally to all lands beyond, asks that the single service of transporing a letter from shore to shore, in any direction to any distance, to any country whither the British mail-packets sail or steam, shall be performed for a penny. The other looks on the ocean with a partial eye, and offers to convey a letter from any port of Great Britain to any port of its distant Colonies only for fourpence, leaving all other countries out of the arrangement, even those which lie on the route to the British dependencies. Thus, if a mail-packet from Southampton to New Zealand should touch at Lisbon and leave a letter there, the mere transit service would be charged as now, or about a shilling,—while one of the same weight conveyed by the same ship 12,000 miles further, would be charged fourpence for the ocean transit. The sea service on a letter from Liverpool to Halifax would be fourpence, while from Liverpool to Boston it would be as at present, 9*d*. In proposing the arrangement to the Colonies, the Home Government says to them: ‘If you will reduce all your various inland rates to a uniform charge of one penny, we will reduce the ocean transit service between us to fourpence, but on no other condition.’ This proposal has ere this reached all the Colonies, and probably several of them have accepted it, and their answers may be this moment on the way to England. But the proposition of a universal Penny Ocean Postage has been before the people of all the British Colonies for at least two years. It has been widely published in their journals. They have sent home a large number of petitions to Parliament in favour of it. The Members of the Legislature of Nova Scotia have memorialized for it. Courts, municipal corporations, and other bodies in the Canadas, have petitioned for it. They have prayed for it in the same form in the West Indies in Australia, &c. A lively expectation has been excited in the Colonies, that the transit service on letters between them and the mother-country will be reduced to one penny.”

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